

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Protection... Eugene V. Rostow argues that the US is duty-bound to support the Government of El Salvador.



Punch On the third anniversary of the agreement that legalized Solidarity...

Basnett warning to unions

Trade unions must recognize that Labour is no longer the automatic choice as an alternative government...

Suicide in court

The suicide of a left-wing Turkish activist who threw himself from a Berlin courtroom window has unleashed a furor over West Germany's tough immigration policy.

Crime 'ignored'

People on some London housing estates fail to report quite serious crimes for fear of reprisals from a "lawless minority"...

Dollar weakens

The dollar surged on foreign exchange markets, but weakened in New York after the Federal Reserve Board injected \$1.5bn (£1bn) of reserves into the system.

Refinery fire

More than 120 firemen fought most of the day and into the night to control a fire in an oil storage tank at Amoco's Milford Haven refinery.

Surprise ally

Britain found an unexpected ally in Denmark when EEC ministers met in Brussels to confront the threat of Comrounity bankruptcy.

Willis stays

Bob Willis has been reappointed England captain for their winter tour to Fiji, New Zealand and Pakistan.

Channel 4 in line for £100m subsidy

Channel 4 will need a subsidy of at least £100m this year with a large part of it taking the form of lost contributions to the Exchequer.

Threat to blow up hijacked jet over Iraq

Tehran (AFP, Reuters) - The hijackers of an Air France Boeing 727 grounded at Tehran Airport announced last night that they planned to take off and blow the aircraft up over Iraq, Iranian television said.

UN chief in London for Falklands talks

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent. Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary General, arrived in London yesterday and will have talks with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, on the future of the Falkland Islands when they meet today for the first time.

Closure threat to six colleges

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent. Six colleges are threatened with closure in cuts recommended yesterday by a Government advisory body, but their names are to remain secret unless the colleges declare their involvement.

Hattersley attacks 'ticket for defeat'

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent. Mr Roy Hattersley said last night that the Labour Party would guarantee yet another general election defeat if it was stupid enough to elect a joint Kinnoch-Meacher leadership ticket at the party conference on October 2.

Gunmen kill general in Santiago

Santiago (Reuters) - Unidentified gunmen yesterday shot dead the Chief Administrator of Santiago, a retired general, two days after President Augusto Pinochet lifted a state of emergency following bloody protests against military rule in Chile.

British troops under fire for first time in Lebanon

From Kate Dorrain, Beirut. The British contingent of the multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut came under attack for the first time yesterday as the Lebanese Army battled against an alliance of Shia Muslim and Druze forces.

Basnett warning to unions

Trade unions must recognize that Labour is no longer the automatic choice as an alternative government...

Begin's decision to quit leaves Israel without a leader

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

An intensive and destabilizing period of political bargaining is under way in Israel to find an agreed successor to Mr Menachem Begin, the country's sixth Prime Minister, who announced yesterday beyond any remaining doubt that he is standing down.

The start of the complex process designed to find an alternative leader for the shaky Likud coalition capable of securing a parliamentary majority coincided with Israel's agreement to a second, brief postponement in the redeployment of its occupying troops in Lebanon.

The agreement to delay the pull-back - which had been scheduled to start at first light today - came after an urgent request from President Reagan transmitted by his special envoy, Mr Robert McFarlane. It was announced on Israel's radio network, which explained only that it would be for "a very limited period".

Mr Begin's final decision to resign from political life at the age of 70 - as he first foreshadowed some six years ago - was communicated to coalition leaders during an emotional, two-hour meeting. Afterwards, one of the participants said: "It is a very sad day. But we could see there was no longer any point in trying to persuade him to stay on."

In an effort to thwart any efforts by the opposition Labour Party to put together a rival coalition, Mr Begin acceded to a request from his ministers for a short delay before handing his resignation letter to the Israeli President, Mr Chaim Herzog. It was unclear whether this will be for days or weeks.

The Likud leaders hope that the interregnum will be sufficient for them to build a new coalition, but it was not clear whether they would succeed without the invaluable political cement provided by the personality of Mr Begin even during his last months of personal decline.

Hopes that an agreed successor could be found without a political struggle diminished when Mr David Levy, the deputy prime minister, announced there would be "more than one" contender.

Earlier, it had been suggested by backers of the front-runner, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, that Mr Levy had agreed to a No 2 position.

At the age of 67, Mr Shamir was seen by observers as the uncharismatic stop-gap candidate who might hold the coalition together, but who would be unlikely to win many votes. Mr Levy, a Sephardic Jew, has a much more popular following but is opposed by certain coalition members whose support is vital to secure the necessary 61 votes in the 120-member Parliament.

One plan being canvassed was to restore Mr Ariel Sharon, the disgraced former Defence Minister, to the chairmanship of the influential cabinet committee responsible for expanding Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

Although the Labour Party with 50 seats has more deputies than the Likud with 48, it would be powerless to form a new government if sufficient minor parties agreed to stick by the Likud under Mr Begin's successor. To do so, they may be expected to ask for extra concessions for their own sectional and religious interests.

By last night, as the haggling got under way both in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, many Israeli commentators argued that the most likely outcome of Mr Begin's departure will be a move to bring the next general election forward from 1985 to a new date early next year.

The uncertainty which the resignation will encourage - both inside Israel and in the Middle East - has increased international concern about the region's immediate future. Western diplomats here found it hard to see the delay in Israel's redeployment, extending beyond a few days or weeks at most.

The closeness to which the pullback had already come was shown by the fact that television cameramen selected to film the operation on a pooled basis had already been dispatched northwards. Public pressure remains intense for the redeployment to go ahead as soon as possible.

After yesterday's meeting with Mr Begin, the conviction grew that he was retiring because of mental and physical fatigue, rather than any political reason. "He told us simply that he felt he was not able to continue," explained Rabbi Shlomo Lorenz of the Agudat Israel Party. "He said that it was a personal matter, that he just could not go on."

Mr Uri Peres, the Prime Minister's press secretary, confirmed that Mr Begin would be succeeded by a coalition partner. Continued on back page, col 1

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Mr Begin: 'No point in trying to persuade him to stay on'

Hattersley attacks 'ticket for defeat'

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Roy Hattersley said last night that the Labour Party would guarantee yet another general election defeat if it was stupid enough to elect a joint Kinnoch-Meacher leadership ticket at the party conference on October 2.

Mr Kinnoch's main challenger for the leadership said in an interview on Radio Clyde: "If Neil Kinnoch was elected leader and then Michael Meacher was elected deputy, there would be people who were actually saying and voting for the proposition that they didn't want a compromise within the party; they didn't want a balanced leadership; they didn't want the broad church; they wanted exclusive brethren; they wanted a very narrow view of the Labour Party's philosophy and belief."

"He then added: 'I don't believe that the Labour Party would be stupid enough to do that because to do that would be to throw away any chance of winning the next general election.'"

Meanwhile, it became clear yesterday that Mr Meacher has taken a calculated decision to rid himself of the damaging public image that he is a political cypher of Mr Wedgwood Benn.

A number of Mr Meacher's close political colleagues were yesterday taking exception to the "hard left" and "Bennie" labels which have been applied to rid himself of the damaging public image that he is a political cypher of Mr Wedgwood Benn.

Mr Meacher himself said on August 10 that the so-called "dress ticket" of Mr Kinnoch and Mr Hattersley was a recipe for continued destructive internal party wrangling.

But the fidelity of Mr Hattersley's words, talking of the party throwing away "any chance" of winning an election puts his comments into a different political league.

Some MPs might take his views as an indication of the strength of Mr Meacher's challenge and the growing realization that Mr Hattersley faces defeat in the two contests. But if Mr Hattersley also feels that such a result would mean the end of Labour consensus, that could raise doubts over his future role in the party.

However, in a separate interview, Mr Hattersley predicted last night that he will win the Labour leadership contest if the seven uncommitted unions follow the wishes of their members. He conceded that Mr Kinnoch is currently ahead in the race but, during an interview on Scottish Television, he refused to admit defeat. "Nobody knows who is going to win, nor will they, I think, until the evening of October 2. The sensible newspapers describe Neil Kinnoch as the front runner. He certainly is."

"But it's a long race, it's a five week race still."

Mr Hattersley and Mr Meacher: Challenge is growing

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Gunmen kill general in Santiago

Santiago (Reuters) - Unidentified gunmen yesterday shot dead the Chief Administrator of Santiago, a retired general, two days after President Augusto Pinochet lifted a state of emergency following bloody protests against military rule in Chile.

Major-General Carol Urzua, aged 57, was killed not far from his home when attackers opened fire on his car with a machine gun from the back of a pickup truck, a government statement said.

His driver and his escort were also killed in the burst of gunfire at 9.15 am in a smart suburb of Santiago. A news agency said more than 60 bullets hit the car. Police said the pickup truck was found nearby.

Police sealed off the area, closed my roads and sent out special controls at the airport. Helicopters swept low over rooftops.

It was the most serious attack against a member of the armed forces since President Pinochet took power in a coup 10 years ago.

His recently appointed Interior Minister Señor Sergio Jarpa, has begun political reforms on a small scale.

Señor Jarpa, visiting Buenos Aires, expressed "profound consternation" at the killing, but said it would not interfere with the process of gradual political liberalization.

He described the assassination as "an isolated case", which did not justify reimposing the state of emergency.

The killing was described by the Government as the work of extremist terrorist elements.

Mr Wheeler remained optimistic last night that the company could still find a buyer. "On the basis of the price, I think we have a very good chance," he said. "But time is running out. Someone would have to be found within the next two to three weeks."

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Micro boom's first victim

By Clive Cookson Technology Correspondent

Britain's home computer boom has claimed its first corporate victim.

Grundy Business Systems, manufacturer of the NewBrain microcomputer designed originally by Sir Clive Sinclair, is to go into liquidation. Sales success last year tempted the company, which is 30 per cent state owned, to expand too fast.

"Severe cash flow problems" forced the board to recommend winding up Grundy Business Systems, Mr Anthony Wheeler, finance director, said. A creditors' meeting has been called for next week to appoint a liquidator.

NewBrain has perhaps the most chequered history of all the late 1970s as a research project in Sir Clive's former company, Sinclair Radionics.

When he left Radionics in 1979 to start his present firm, Sinclair Research, the project was transferred to Newbury Laboratories, a subsidiary of the National Enterprise Board.

The computer just missed being chosen as the BBC Micro in 1981. The BBC selected NewBrain unofficially as the machine it wanted to adopt for its compulsory series on home computing, but at about the same time Newbury Laboratories decided to concentrate on manufacturing peripherals (printers and disc drives) and sold NewBrain to Grundy.

During that period of uncertainty the BBC gave the contract instead to Acorn Computers, for whom the BBC Micro has proved a great success.

Grundy Business Systems, a company owned 70 per cent by the private Grundy Group and 30 per cent by the government's British Technology Group, finally launched NewBrain in May, 1982, with a price tag of £199 and "the confident claim of being the most powerful hand-held microcomputer in the world."

NewBrain was an immediate success, with demand running ahead of supply, and by January this year it had become one of Britain's most popular micros, selling up to 5,000 a month.

On the basis of that success Grundy made what turned out to be the fatal mistake of expanding production rapidly to meet an anticipated NewBrain boom this year.

Sales declined and the slump was made worse by the company's delay in delivering a promised disc system that would have given NewBrain users access to far more software.

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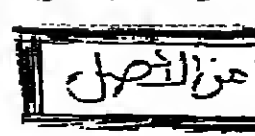
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Advertisement for NESCAFÉ Gold Blend decaffeinated coffee. Text: 'There's only one decaffeinated coffee that tastes as good as Gold Blend.' Includes an image of a Nescafé Gold Blend jar.

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Apps, Archaeology, Arts, Business, Chess, Court, Crossword, Diary. Features: 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25.



Labour government not automatic alternative, unions told by Basnett

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Trade unions have been warned by a union leader that they must recognize that Labour is no longer the automatic choice as an alternative government and that they need to face up to the "unpalatable facts" about future policies and strategy.

The warning, delivered on the eve of the TUC Congress in Blackpool, comes from Mr David Basnett, general secretary of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, and the key figure in the links between the two wings of the labour movement.

An exposition by Mr Basnett on the union movement's need to rethink its objectives and economic policy is contained in his union's journal published today. He says that the challenge to the unions' traditional role is not just coming from hostile government and employers "but also from our own members."

over the past few years," Mr Basnett writes. His article is an emphatic restatement of his position on the need for a radical change in the Labour Party's policies and objectives.

Mr Basnett is chairman of the TUC's influential economic committee and was largely responsible for winning committee backing last month for a reappraisal of the movement's traditional economic approach.

An attempt will be made at Blackpool next week to extend that study to include an examination of the economic policies on which Labour fought the election.

He says in the article: "We are on our own with a need to reestablish our philosophy, our influence on governments and the certainty of the return of a Labour government. Our policies and our commitments were not wrong but they have to be adjusted and modified in the light of the new and harsher economic, social and political reality."



Mr Basnett: "Unpalatable political facts"

Mr Basnett emphasizes that the union movement can hold out little hope of legislative action on issues such as low pay, shorter working hours and fringe benefits and instead the movement had to coordinate bargaining objectives in the light of the new position.

A key element of union policy had to be to educate their members that the movement's overall philosophy was correct. "It is a massive task of education and of positive propaganda to overcome the new consensus which the Thatcherites have latched on to, a consensus of minimum government interference and minimum redistributive taxation," he writes.

The unions should also win members over again to the long-established argument that the labour movement had a role to play in influencing policy-making. Mr Basnett finds it disturbing that "the legitimacy of that role is not acknowledged by a large proportion of our members."

"At the moment we cannot presume the outcome of the next election. We cannot therefore put as many eggs in the basket of legislative change after the next election as we have tended to do



Burning issue: Cambridgeshire farmworkers watch straw burning, an activity which has prompted an all-party campaign by councillors in the county to seek a ban on the practice.



More than a dozen farmers in the county face prosecution for alleged breaches of the stubble burning code. A spokesman for the county public protection committee said yesterday: "The summer has been a traumatic one for the fire brigade, with harvest and other associated fires costing an extra £30,000 so far" (photograph: David Cairns).



They plan to approach Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, through local MPs to seek legislation making it illegal for farmers to cause air pollution and ash fall-out by setting light to their fields.



Letters, page 11

Government 'apathy' on PIE criticized

By David Nicholson-Lord

Mr Charles Oxley, the Liverpool headmaster who "infiltrated" the Paedophile Information Exchange (PIE) and later supplied the information to detectives at Scotland Yard, last night criticized the Government's "apathetic" approach to the case.

Mr Oxley said that the Home Office and the Metropolitan Police had failed to allocate enough police time to the case or give it a high enough priority. "It is hopeless," he added. "They have been very dilatory." Mrs Margaret Thatcher should take a strong lead on the issue, he said.

great public concern. Young children all over the country are being seriously assaulted by people who are campaigning to make it legal.

"I would like to see Mrs Thatcher taking a strong lead and saying to the new Home Secretary that a dreadful situation exists, that we have just about reached rock-bottom with the ill-treatment of children and that something must be done."

The DPP's office said yesterday that reports of a long list of names of those allegedly involved in PIE were misleading, as were claims that there was a "brand-new dossier" on the case.

Miners fail to halt pit closure

The National Coal Board has told miners' representatives that their plan to save Lynemouth Colliery in Northumberland will not work and the board has repeated its intention to close the mine.

Although miners' leaders said they would continue to fight, they now seem to have little chance of stopping a shutdown at the pit, which employs almost 1,100 men.

Mr Denis Murphy, president of the Northumberland miners, said men had been attracted by the board's "piece of silver" - a reference to transfer payments of up to £1,550 offered to miners who agree to switch to Ellington Colliery, less than a mile from Lynemouth.

At Ellington, which with Lynemouth, forms the biggest undersea mining complex in the world, the men will also have a chance of earning bigger bonuses.

Belfast offenders' centre damaged

Damage estimated at thousands of pounds was caused when inmates at a young offenders' centre on the outskirts of Belfast went on the rampage during the prison officers' rostered overtime ban.

Extra police were drafted into the centre to assist RUC officers already on duty because of the dispute. The trouble broke out during evening lock-up on Monday.

Several youths had to be moved to other rooms after bedrooms in the accommodation area were severely damaged. Mr John Hall, secretary of the prison officers' association, yesterday claimed that prison warders arriving for work discovered 19 youngsters handcuffed in the dining area.

Elsewhere in the province, prison officers were back on duty after their 24-hour overtime ban, 120 were turned away from the Crumlin Road and Maze prisons when they reported for duty yesterday.

Computer games help maths

Computer games of the kind found in amusement arcades and played in schools are improving children's grasp of mathematics, according to the conclusions of a 12-month survey by Mr Trevor Fletcher, a school inspector (HMI) who has studied the impact of microcomputers on mathematics teaching.

His report is published today by the Department of Education and Science as a discussion paper for teachers.

Mr Fletcher says an increasing number of children are so enthusiastic they are arriving well before their school is open and remaining until the caretaker clears the building. Although all ages are involved, there are far more boys than girls among the enthusiasts.

The report shows important changes in the way mathematics ideas are being taught, with many youngsters discovering an enjoyment they did not have before.

Whitehall unions in youth scheme talks

Civil Service union leaders will meet senior Whitehall officials this morning to discuss details of a programme for 4,000 young people under the Youth Training Scheme after a lifting of union restrictions.

Union officials will press the Manpower and Personnel Office, which is to implement the scheme in government departments, for a series of guarantees on extra manpower to train the young people and for an increase in the £25 a week allowance to be paid to trainees.

A meeting of senior leaders of the Council of Civil Service Unions, the umbrella body for the nine unions, yesterday authorized the discussions with the Government despite strong reservations by at least two unions.

The Civil and Public Services Association, the biggest union, is bound by a left-sponsored decision of its annual conference not to cooperate with the scheme. The Society of Civil and Public Servants' left wing leadership has put several conditions, on its cooperation.

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Cocaine smugglers foiled

Plans to smuggle into Britain cocaine with a street value of £500,000 were foiled after a holidaymaker fishing off north Cornwall hooked and landed a container holding 2½ kilograms of the drug.

Customs and Excise officers, who had been keeping watch in the area, moved in quickly. They were keeping under surveillance a yacht that had recently arrived from the Caribbean. When the holidaymaker reported his "catch" to police the customs officers moved in and three men, two Britons and a New Zealander, were detained.

Hopes recede of end to flag-flying dispute

An attempt to end a dispute over the flying of a Union flag, which has led to the closure of a Northern Ireland factory, has failed. Hopes of the plant reopening are receding.

The dispute is between Roman Catholic and Protestant employees at Moy Meat in Co Armagh. Attempts at conciliation ended yesterday with confirmation that insufficient members of the workforce had backed a compromise proposal to fly the flag between July 1 and July 14.

Former Sea Lord attacks Nott's cuts

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, the former First Sea Lord, yesterday attacked Sir John Nott's defence review of 1981 as "ill-conceived".

Sir Henry, who retired last year after organizing the dispatch of the Falklands task force, said measures to improve the Fleet's defences against Exocet-type sea-skimming missiles had been cancelled in the cuts.

Writing in the latest issue of *Air Pictorial*, he said: "True, they could not have been in service in the Fleet by the time the Falklands crisis came to a head, but the irrational slashing of the Navy's capability (since rephrased by guilty men as 'reshaping' the Navy) coupled with the decision to introduce to dispose of HMS Endeavour (the ice-patrol ship) could only be interpreted as an earnest of disinterest in the South Atlantic."

Sir Henry said that most newly emergent nations wanted "shiny new technology in their military weapons systems and can afford to pay for it: those responsible for UK defence need to bear this in mind."

He added that "it is a sad reflection" that it took 16 years and "a sharp war" to convince "people who should have known better" of the importance of the Fleet of early warning planes.

Criticism by the editor of *Jane's Fighting Ships* about the strength of the Royal Navy was repeated yesterday by Lord Trefgarne, Under-Secretary of State for the Armed Forces.

He said of Captain John Moore, the editor: "The captain is grinding an axe, complaining that we do not have enough battle-ships or destroyers. But we have cut our cloth according to our means... The strength of the Navy is in accordance with the threat as assessed by those in the hot seat."

The Royal Navy's ships, which since the Second World War have been occasionally painted black below the water-line, are to become plum-coloured after the introduction of a new type of paint developed by International Paint of Newcastle upon Tyne.

IRA welcome for sisters

Ann (right) and Eileen Gillespie, sisters from Co Donegal in the Irish Republic, who were jailed in Britain in 1975 for offences connected with an IRA bombing campaign, and who were greeted by well-wishers at Dublin airport yesterday, after their release from prison.

The sisters were flown to Dublin from Manchester immediately after their release. They had served eight years of their 14-year sentences, at Styal prison, Cheshire.

They were met at Dublin by members of their family and leaders of the IRA. They were carried shoulder-high before being driven to their home in Bangor.

charges of conspiring to cause explosions in the Manchester area, and of possessing explosives. At their trial, Ann, aged 33, and Eileen, aged 30, both nursing sisters, were described by the judge as "sister and evil". They have, however, maintained their innocence.

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Rapist may have struck third time

A rapist whose military-style underground lair was found in a South London wood may have struck a third time and police fear his latest victim may be dead.

Items of clothing were found after a woman's screams were heard early yesterday.

More than 100 officers searched the area and dragged a local pond, but nothing was found. Police are worried that if there was an attack the woman was either killed, or too scared to report the incident.

A couple heard a woman's screams in Lessness Park, Upper Belvedere, Bexley, near where two other women were assaulted recently. They called the police and two officers saw a man running away but lost him in the dark.

Police found two hideouts last week in woodland near the scene of yesterday's search. They believe they were used by a man they have been looking for about two earlier sex attacks. One hideout was an underground chamber built with they describe as "military-style".

CND urges Polaris negotiations

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament urged the Government yesterday to include Britain's Polaris missiles in the Geneva disarmament talks, in response to the Soviet Union's offer to "liquidate" Soviet SS20 missiles.

"President Andropov has offered to destroy a number of missiles so that the numbers deployed in European Russia match the number of British and French missiles, providing Nato does not deploy cruise and Pershing later this year."

In a letter to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, Mrs Joan Ruddock, CND's chairman, said the British system should be counted into the Geneva talks.

Although Nato has always argued that the British and French systems are strategic rather than intermediate weapons, and are independent, Mrs Ruddock said: "It is inconceivable that the United States would not include 'independent' nuclear forces if such were held by Hungary or Czechoslovakia."

Nunn disputes lead with Russian grandmaster

At the end of round seven in the Lloyd's Bank Masters tournament in London two grandmasters, John Nunn of England and the Russian player Razuvayev, were leading with 6 points each.

Nunn won with some ease against Levitt, who lost control of the central files and thereby exposed his king to a devastating attack.

Razuvayev was equally severe against Wicker and won in 30 moves, just as Nunn had done.

Surprisingly the Argentine grandmaster Quinteros lost for the second time in succession and must be now completely out of the race as regards the leading prizes. The Israeli master Murcy also lost, to Cummings, in 48 moves, and is so doing left out of the struggle for a leading place.

The leading scores are: Nunn and Razuvayev 6, Cummings and King 5½, Kosten and Matanovic 5 and one, adjudged, Britton, Conquest, Harrison, Kopeck Levitt, W Watson and Wicker 5.

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Empty jewelry boxes scattered on burglar's trail

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A trail of discarded jewel boxes succeeded, despite security guards, close circuit television, alarms and dogs guarding 1,000 acres of grounds.

The burglar managed to evade them, possibly because of the sheer size of the grounds. When he reached the main house it is thought that he scaled the wall to a window of a first-floor bedroom which he entered. At the time it is understood the security systems were not fully operational because the house was occupied.

The burglar swiftly collected the jewelry, ranging from watches worth a few thousand pounds to a string of pearls worth £130,000, and slipped away on the A3 heading northwards towards London, he is believed to have sorted out the jewelry, possibly as an accomplice drove, throwing the boxes out of the car's window.

The first was found on Sunday by a man walking his dog and yesterday the police had identified another two, including one had contained the £130,000 necklace. A search of the verges had also uncovered other items which had yet to be identified by the Hajjar family.

The boxes will be examined for possible fingerprints and other forensic evidence although the police believe that they are dealing with a thoroughly professional burglar. The crime has been compared with a number of other recent country house break-ins which have led to speculation about a highly successful "Raffles" touring the country in search of targets.

Yesterday, Sussex police refused to be drawn on any comparisons but details of other cases.

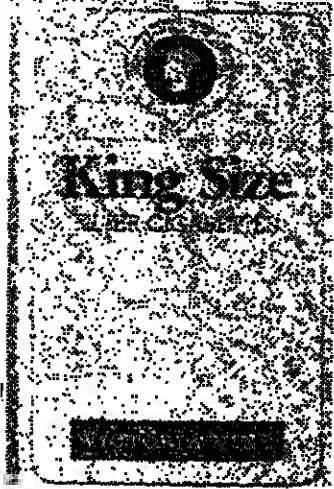
A reward of 10 per cent of the value of the jewelry has been offered by Summers, Henderson Tyler, a firm of loss adjusters

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Wine chain's own-brand cigarette sales may start price war

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Victoria Wine, part of Allied Lyons and the country's biggest off-licence chain, is to test market packs of 20 cigarettes under its own label at 85p per pack. The pack will be white with green and gold lettering. Text marketing will be carried out at 24 outlets and could start a fierce cigarette price cutting war.



Victoria Wine's own-brand cigarettes.

Victoria Wine would be likely to bring the cut-price range into all 900 outlets, if the supermarkets also took up their own label supplies the big British manufacturers could face the price pressures experienced by manufacturers in West Germany in the past few years.

In West Germany, "no-name" cigarettes - produced for grocery chains - have taken about 40 per cent of the market through supermarkets. That has forced the German manufacturers to cut prices to compete.

Cut-price no-name cigarettes - sold in plain generic rather than own-label packs - have also obtained a big market share in the United States.

Hintons in the North east which has 53 supermarkets and

27 off-licences, has already introduced its own house label cigarettes.

Its Wineschluden brand, also produced by the Manchester Tobacco Company, is selling at 94p for 20. The cigarettes were launched two months ago and are said by Hintons to be selling well, with the prospect of taking 10 to 15 per cent of its cigarette sales.

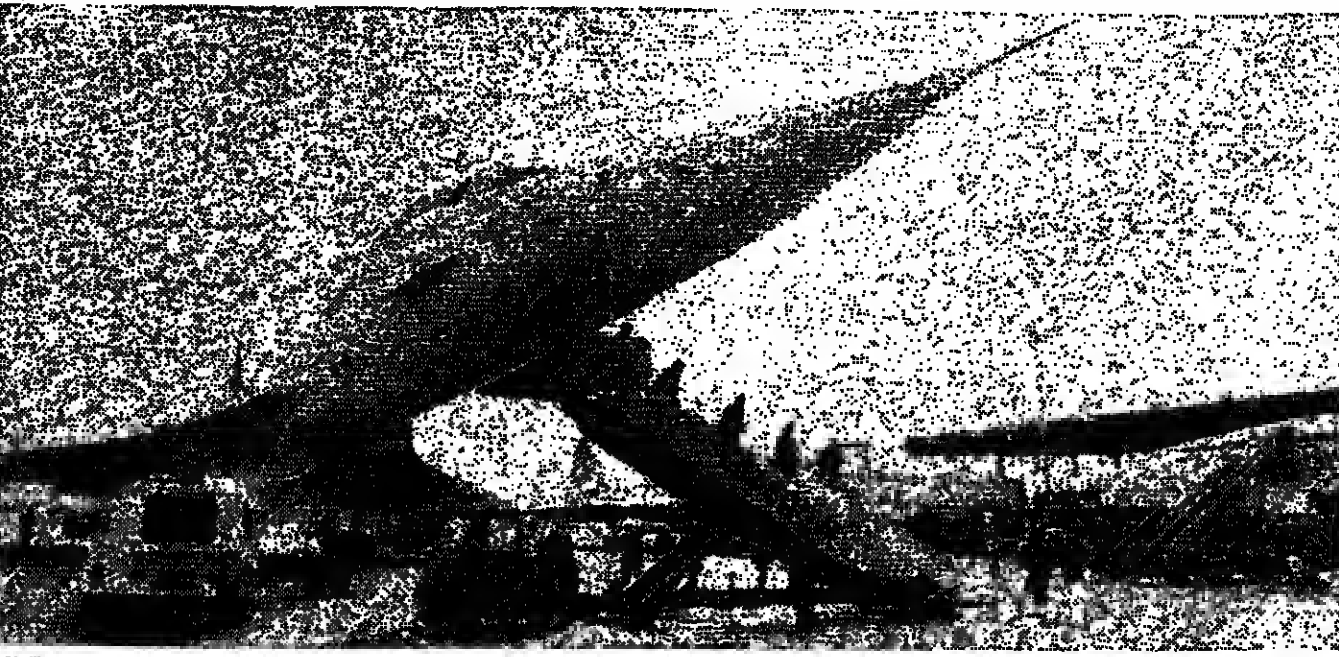
Victoria Wine expects its own-label sales to go higher than that.

Mr Eric Colwell, managing director, said: "Reactions have already been favourable even though it is early days yet. After a lot of research we believe that own-label and national brands can run happily alongside each other as they do for instance in the whisky and gin markets."

Imperial Tobacco, with its John Player and Embassy brands, and Gallans with Benson and Hedges, are locked in a price war, with many brands being offered at reduced "promotional" prices.

Increased duty reduced consumption by five to six per cent earlier this year but sales have improved recently.

Bagpipes, breakfast and ballyhoo



Super shuttle: British Airways Concordes at Glasgow airport yesterday where they were piped in after landing. Mr Colin Marshall (bottom right) BA's chief executive, at Heathrow airport with the new, free breakfast for passengers on shuttle flights.

BA 'will not make price cut'

By Michael Bally Transport Editor

There will be no fare cuts on British Airways domestic shuttle to beat off competition from British Midland Airways.

That was made clear yesterday by Mr Colin Marshall, BA's chief executive, on a day in which the airline spent about £33,000 on flying nearly 600 passengers, paying over £50 a head, from London to Glasgow and back by Concordes to mark the opening of a new improved "super shuttle".

BA is spending around £4m a year to provide a full English breakfast, free drinks, reserved seats, to staunch the traffic loss that within a year of competition from British Midland has cost it 33 per cent of the Glasgow market and 31 per cent to Edinburgh.

But while British Midland announced yet another challenge to BA yesterday this time on the London to Aberdeen route, Mr Marshall said that there would be no price war on shuttle routes despite British Midland's current price advantage. BA's single fare to Glasgow is £58, compared with British Midland's £53.50. "We are the market leader and it would not be wise for us to bring fares down unless we want to get into a price war", Mr Marshall said. Nor was BA trying to drive British Midland out of business.

The Concordes trips failed to draw the crowds predicted the day before. The first left Heathrow at 7.15am with all 100 seats taken, but the second at 7.50am carried only 67 passengers. The third, shortly after, was full.

Most passengers were clearly thrilled at the bargain opportunity of flying on the aircraft but many took it to their stride. "I could not care less about Concordes, I just want to get to Glasgow on time," one businessman at Heathrow said.

Chay Blyth in new challenge

Chay Blyth, the round-the-world yachtsman, announced yesterday that he had set himself a fresh, and maybe final, sailing challenge to beat the clipper ship record for the 14,500-mile voyage round Cape Horn.

Mr Blyth, aged 43, will sail from New York in November to try to beat the record set by the American cutter Flying Cloud 132 years ago. He hopes to arrive in San Francisco sooner than the 89 days and 21 hours the cutter took in 1851.

He said yesterday: "For me this is a great adventure." British forces based on the Falkland Islands have agreed to rendezvous with him as he sails through the South Atlantic to take off his letters and film.

Woman's body among toys

The body of Mrs Thelma Mary Bain, aged 63, of Ladbroke Avenue, Edgware, west London, was discovered on the floor in her bedroom hidden by toys seven days after she was reported missing, the Hammersmith coroner, was told yesterday.

The inquest was told she had taken poison. A verdict was recorded that she had taken her life because of severe depression.

Blazing tyres inquest date

An inquest into the death of a man who was severely burnt when a sculpture of a submarine made from car tyres was destroyed by fire, was adjourned at Battersea, south London, yesterday until September 13.

Body in freezer

Mrs Ethel Bussell, aged 72, was found dead in an old disconnected freezer at a Devon farm yesterday. Police said that a post-mortem examination would be carried out on Mrs Bussell, of Higher Esterbrook, Burlescombe, but there were no suspicious circumstances.

Aircraft charge

Henri Rothlisberger, aged 72, from Lille, has been accused in the Irish Republic of attempting to damage an Air France aircraft from Paris to Montreal. He will appear in court at Shannon on Friday.

Drug police seize Baudelaire book

A work by Baudelaire, first published 133 years ago, has been seized by police in search of material linked to illicit drug use. Other works taken during raids on bookshops include three by Aldous Huxley and one by William Burroughs, the American writer.

The books have been seized in 26 raids over the past 18 months on small, independent or "alternative" bookshops. Several police have acted under the Obscene Publications Act, mainly taking imported books on cannabis, cocaine and hallucinogenic mushrooms, covering use and cultivation.

But a list compiled by the Publishers' Association shows police have also taken Baudelaire's *Hashish, Wine and Opium* published in 1850; *The Doors of Perception*, *Moksha and The Island* by Huxley; *Junkie* by Burroughs; and several books by Hunter S. Thompson, the American writer and journalist, including his history of the Hell's Angels.

Earlier this month, members of the association met to consider the police action. They decided to see whether the police would keep the books or bring prosecutions before taking action themselves.

Yesterday, a spokesman for the association said the meeting had considered representations to Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, but it was decided "to hold one's horses until we see whether the books are going to be prosecuted".

Missing wife seen alive, anonymous caller says

Police searching for Mrs Diane Jones, the missing wife of an Essex village doctor, received an anonymous telephone call yesterday claiming that she is in the Bury St Edmunds area of Suffolk.

The caller, a woman who said she was a close friend of Mrs Jones, rang off before police had a chance to question her.

She said she had seen Mrs Jones alive and well in the past 48 hours. Mrs Jones is 35, disappeared five weeks ago.

Her husband, Dr Robert Jones, aged 40, left for a holiday in Canada at the weekend after putting his farmhouse in Coggeshall, Essex, up for sale at £95,000.

State cash goes to pop group

The four members of a pop music group from Solihull, West Midlands are to receive about £40 a week each for a year under the Government's enterprise allowance scheme.

The scheme encourages small businesses under the auspices of the Manpower Services Commission. It is thought to be the first time that musicians have been aided.

The Department of Employment said: "We agree they are in a fringe area, but they conformed to the guidelines. They had all been out of work for over 13 weeks and were prepared to put £1,000 into the venture. We do not know if they had to give an audition after they had applied."

The Government has allocated £54m for the first year of the scheme, which started on a national basis this month. There are to be 25,000 places, and so far there have been 147 approved cases in the Midlands, including the pop group.

Franchise applications go in today

Rival companies stake cable TV claims

Both and Reading: Wyvern Television, company intends also to make educational programmes. Brighton, Hove, Worthing and Bognor Regis: Communicable. Bristol: Rediffusion; Stockbrokers Stock Beach. Coventry: Thorn-EMI with local radio station Mercia. East Angles: Eastern Cable Television for Norwich; Cable Systems Development Company for Ipswich.

Leeds and Bradford: Consortium involving Virgin Records. Lancashire: Cable North-West. (Preston, Chorley and Leyland) company run by Barry Ashew, former editor of *Newspaper of the World*, plus other local celebrities including Tom Finney, Lancashire Cable (Preston, Blackpool and Blackburn), board members include Mr Alastair Burnett and representatives of the local commercial radio station; Central Lancashire Television (Preston, Chorley and Leyland). Leicester: Thorn-EMI, Rediffusion, Granada Television, London Central London Cable (Camden and Hampstead); Croydon Cable Television Company (Croydon) headed by Mr Jack Gill, Longman (Harrow and Brent). Merseyside: Cablevision - consortium which includes Pilkington, Virgin Records, British Telecom, BTCC, Littlewoods and Kings Street. Manchester: Granada Television, Manchester Cablevision, including Rothchilds, Ferranti, The Guard-

Two more staff quit Dartington

Two more senior members of staff have resigned from Dartington Hall, the independent progressive school, whose headmaster announced a clean-up campaign after allegations of crime and vice among pupils.

Mr John Clanch-Bunting and his wife, Angela, house parent, who have been at the school in Totnes, Devon, for four years, leave later this week. They are refusing to say why.

Their departure comes after that of two senior teachers, Mr David Gribble and Mrs Maggie Girard, who have also refused to give their reasons.

Dartington Hall's headmaster, Mr Lyn Blackshaw, aged 44, wrote last week to the parents of the 300 mixed pupils, who pay nearly £6,000 a year to educate their children.

Timber frame homes defended

There is no evidence to suggest that timber frame built homes are inferior to more traditional houses, the National House-building Council says in a report published yesterday.

The council, which provides a 10-year guarantee scheme for new homes, says it has introduced design and safety guidelines which make British timber frame homes the best in the world.

Since the mid-1960s there have only been 24 claims against timber frame construction methods. That compares with a total of 20,000 accepted claims by the guarantee scheme, of which 150,000 used the timber frame method.

Cash flood for disabled yachtsman

The public responded yesterday to the lone voyage of the disabled yachtman, Mr Mike Spring with hundreds of cash donations towards a £750,000 appeal by the Pain Relief Foundation to establish a research institute.

Mr Spring, aged 39, who is paralysed from the waist down, sailed to the Azores and back in his 21ft-long yacht 3M Mariner, but on his return to Penzance on Monday it was learnt that his effort had raised less than a quarter of the expected £20,000.

Lord Northesk, chairman of the appeal committee of the Pain Relief Foundation, of which Mr Spring is a patient, asked the public to make the voyage financially worthwhile and yesterday offers of cash help started to pour in.

Mr Spring is a computer programmer working from home for the 3M company, which gave £1,500 to the appeal. The company will welcome him home today at a ceremony in its Bracknell headquarters and Mr Robert Colney, chairman and managing director, intends to pledge another pound for every mile of Mr Spring's return journey to Britain - estimated to be over 1,300 miles.

Councils get time over rent cash

Local authorities have been given new deadlines for implementing the new housing benefit scheme because of widespread difficulties that have left thousands of private tenants without rent money.

But Mr Rhodes Boysoo, Minister for Social Security, denied in a statement on the eve of the scheme yesterday that the difficulties were as bad as reports have suggested. His statement, the first from a minister to set out in detail the case for the new scheme, is intended to take the edge off some of the protests anticipated when MPs return to the Commons at the end of the summer recess.

The scheme transfers to local authorities responsibility for paying out help with housing costs from the Department of Health and Social Security and was intended to be fully implemented by April. But at the end of July, the Department acknowledged that 100 local authorities had not completed the transition.

The position is believed to have improved since then, but local authorities have been given until September to introduce the change for existing cases, and until December for those taken over from the DHSS.

Mr Boysoo's statement said that 95 per cent of people receiving supplementary benefits had been moved on to the new scheme by the end of July, but delays in some cases had led to some people falling behind with their rent and rates.

He acknowledged that private tenants were more vulnerable than council tenants and urged local authorities to give priority to their claims.

BBC names presenters of early evening show

The BBC yesterday named Beverly Anderson, Sally Magnusson, Nick Ross and Desmond Wilcox as presenters of 60 Minutes, the early evening current affairs programme to replace *Nightwatch*. David Lloyd, editor of the new programme said the team would be one of the strongest in television.

"I think that people can look forward to an exciting and popular programme which springs a few surprises", he said. Beverly Anderson, aged 42, joins the programme from Channel 4's *Black on Black* of which she was the first presenter. She is head teacher of Burwood First School in Oxford, and said

Pup theory in cot deaths

A possible link between cot deaths among children and fatalities among newborn pups is suggested in the latest issue of *The Veterinary Record*.

Mr A. S. Blunden, of the Animal Health Trust, near Newmarket, Suffolk, describes his investigations into "fading puppy complex" which is estimated to account for more than half of canine deaths within five days of birth.

Its symptoms include plaintive and persistent crying, restlessness, inability to feed and acute loss of weight.

A collaborative study with Professor J. Davies of the paediatric department at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, showed that the dead pups exhibited the same changes in lung surfactant composition as were found in cot death victims.

Ferment on the subcontinent

Unions muted but lawyers add their weight to anti-Zia protest

A 28-year-old woman wearing a blue outfit and a ring in her nose stood outside the Sessions Court in Karachi yesterday...

From Michael Hamlyn, Karachi

From a coalition of eight outlawed political parties, but the Government has not budged. That there is a good deal of deeply hostile feeling towards the martial law regime of General Zia ul-Haq has been amply demonstrated...

When a man gets a large sum of money in these parts he does one of three things, a government official from the northern part of the province said...

Bombs greet Gandhi's son in Assam

Delhi (Reuters) - Two bombs exploded in Assam when Mr Rajiv Gandhi, aged 39, the politician son of Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister...

March when 3,000 people were killed and more than 300,000 were made homeless. The Press Trust of India said that only one person was injured in the latest attacks...

He later flew by helicopter to Borbari in Nowgong district, which was one of the worst affected areas during the February massacres when whole villages were wiped out.

Augst talks a measure of crisis



Before the battle: Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, confers with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, before the EEC meeting in Brussels.

Britain finds surprise ally in EEC budget battle

The largest ever meeting of EEC ministers yesterday sat round an overcast table in Brussels to wrestle with the largest problem ever to face the Community - how to prevent it from going bankrupt.

Mr Lawson set out Britain's view that there had to be a restrictive price policy for agricultural products which would set a brake on production.

Infection risk to Chad troops

Ndjamena (AP) - The survival rate among soldiers with abdominal injuries sustained in the civil war in Chad is "absolute zero," according to Lieutenant Commander René Jancovici, French Navy doctor who is the only trained surgeon practising in the Chad capital.

They lay in the 50°C (122°F) heat for up to five days without any kind of first aid before being evacuated. "I received 223 seriously hurt soldiers with all kinds of head, chest and limb injuries."

The hospital itself is not a model of hygiene, either. All the toilets are smashed and unusable, and flies and malaria-bearing mosquitoes hover over rubbish and excrement in the yard.

There are not enough beds for the hundreds of patients - civilians as well as soldiers. Many of the military casualties from Faya-Largeau had injuries caused by pellet fragmentation and phosphorus bombs dropped in the divebombing attacks of the Libyan Air Force.

War flares again in Lebanon



Hands up: A Lebanese soldier being seized at gunpoint by a left-wing guerrilla during Beirut fighting in which 15 soldiers and two American Marines were killed on Monday.

Congress concerned at status of American Marines

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

In the wake of the killing of two US Marines in Beirut, the Reagan Administration is coming under congressional pressure to change the terms under which 1,200 troops are in Lebanon as part of the multi-national peace-keeping force.

Although senator Barry Goldwater (Republican, Arizona) has been the only prominent member of Congress to call for the Marines to be withdrawn, several others have urged the Administration to invoke the 1973 war powers act...

The Act was introduced after the Vietnam war and is intended to check the President's power to deploy American troops in hostile situations abroad.

If the situation is deemed sufficiently serious for the Act to be invoked, the troops could be withdrawn within 60 to 90 days unless Congress passed special authorization for them to remain.

On Monday a special crisis management group, chaired by vice-president George Bush, ordered a legal review of the Act but set no date for completion of the review.

Mr Kaddumi said Israel had taken advantage of the focus on Lebanon to step up repression in the West Bank and Gaza. He spoke today after a conference and accepted amid applause, the PLO delegation as a full participant...

Lebanon to step up repression in the West Bank and Gaza. He spoke today after a conference and accepted amid applause, the PLO delegation as a full participant, at the same level as governmental delegations. This was in accordance with the recommendation of the preparatory committee.

Stone's shuttle frustrated again

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

Bogotá early on Monday with representatives from the Salvadoran government's "peace commission" in an effort to set a date and place for future high-level talks.

Mr Stone's mission is intended to convince the guerrillas to take part in Salvadoran elections due early next year. In a statement issued in Panama over the weekend, FDR-FMLN leaders ruled out leftist participation in the elections and called for a power-sharing agreement with the US-backed government of President Alfredo Magaña during an interim period leading up to elections.

essential ingredient" in US policy in Lebanon. American officials contend that the attack appears to have been an isolated incident and was not specifically directed at American positions. If this can be proved, the Act need not be invoked.

But if it is shown that the Marines are in a situation "where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances" then the President is obliged to report to Congress.

A recent Supreme Court ruling has put a question mark over whether the President is still subject to a veto by Congress under the War Powers Act.

Senator John Glenn (Democrat, Ohio) a member of the Senate foreign relations committee and representative of Cleveland, Zbico (Democrat, Wisconsin), chairman of the House foreign affairs committee have both said the deaths of the Marines has changed the situation and that the President should report to Congress.

However Mr Glenn, who is seeking the Democratic nomination for next year's presidential race, favoured keeping the Marines in Lebanon, a view which seems to have wide bipartisan support.

The Marines, who are mainly deployed round Beirut airport, are backed by reserve of 600 stationed in American warships off the Lebanese coast. These reserves have not been called up to support the land-based force which includes British, French and Italian troops.

The Administration has indirectly blamed Syria for Moody's attack which was carried out by Shia militiamen. A senior official accompanying President Reagan on his holiday in California claimed the incident was an outgrowth of Syria's refusal to withdraw its forces from Lebanon and Syria's influence on left-wing Muslim factions there.



Cares of office: A worried President Reagan telephones Washington from his California ranch to seek more information about the deaths of the two American Marines.

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Judgment in Thornhill case today

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Six white Zimbabwe Air Force officers are due to file into the High Court this morning for the final phase of the Thornhill sabotage trial. The outcome could have long-term consequences for Zimbabwe's relations with Britain and other Western nations.

Mr Justice Dumbutshena will deliver judgment on charges - that the officers helped to devastate the country's air defences - before a court packed with relatives and friends of the accused, journalists, diplomatic observers and legal experts.

However, most of those present will be just as intent on what happens afterwards as the judgment itself.

Legal sources here believe that at least some of the six will be acquitted. In the circumstances they believe the main question is whether the Government will allow acquitted officers to go free, or will re-detain them, as has happened in a number of previous security-related trials when judgment has gone against the state.

The six are Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slater, former Deputy Commander of the Air Force, Air Commodore Philip Pile, Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, Wing Commander John Cox, Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd and Air Lieutenant Neville Weir.

All pleaded not guilty to assisting three unnamed South African agents to penetrate security at Thornhill to sabotage eight Hawker Hunters and four Hawk fighters on July 25, 1982. If found guilty they face the death penalty.

During the 44-day trial the state's production of statements by the officers admitting complicity were countered by evidence that they had been systematically denied custody to lawyers and tortured in access to force them to confess.

Four of the officers - Air Commodore Pile, Wing Commander Cox, Air Lieutenant Lloyd and Air Lieutenant Weir - hold dual British-Zimbabwe nationality, and concern at the allegations is understood to have included Downing Street. The matter almost certainly featured in talks between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Robert Mugabe when the Zimbabwe Prime Minister was in London recently.

Naked truth about Volga bath house

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Russian bath houses, unlike certain kinds of sauna baths in the West, are not normally associated with sin. They are strictly segregated, and in the ladies' baths women can sweat, swim and wash with birch twigs, and gossip in the knowledge that their menfolk are safely out of earshot next door.

Comrade Tytkin had other ideas. As head of the baths administration in Sverdlovsk, on the Volga, he obviously thought he had the right to inspect all his establishments. Or so he had told a colleague from Moscow one day as they shared a bottle of vodka in his office.

"Let's go and look at the ladies," Tytkin said thickly. Moments later the two stood swaying in the doorway of the ladies' bath house.

The female attendant, thinking they had got lost, gently pushed the two men out, but they came back. "Don't you know who I am?" demanded Mr Tytkin, peering through the steam. "I am the director of the baths..."

The naked ladies advanced towards him, birch twigs in hand. "This is a random on-the-spot inspection," Mr Tytkin said, stepping backwards. "My colleague from Moscow..."

But his colleague had already retreated. One of the ladies phoned the police who threw Mr Tytkin out.

Comrade Tytkin rushed next door to the men's section, where he persuaded the beer-swilling customers to testify to the police that he was not drunk, as the women had claimed. He then called for beer for himself, and hearing that there was none left ordered the attendants to confiscate it from the customers.

Poison tide closes beaches in France

Bayonne (Reuters) - Dozens of barrels labelled "cyanide of sodium", carried away by floods in the Spanish Basque country, have been washed ashore in south-west France. Local authorities have banned swimming on most beaches.

Nigerian ruling party leads

Lagos (AFP) - President Shagari's National Party of Nigeria has won 145 of the 241 seats declared so far in Saturday's federal assembly elections. The gains have further cemented the party's geographical spread. It polled more than 12 million votes, representing about 47 per cent of the total cast and reached the mandatory one-third of votes in 17 of the 19 states.

General jailed

Peking (AP) - General Wang Dabin who commanded armies of Red Guards in the mid-1960s, had been sentenced to nine years in prison, according to a Canton newspaper. He was charged with fomenting and perpetrating Marshal Peng Teh-bun, the former Defence Minister.

Technical hitch

Antwerp (AP) - A 43-year-old businessman, Mr Jozef D'haens, has been arrested on charges of selling United States computer equipment to Hungary in violation of a trade embargo. Three weeks ago a Foreign Ministry official was arrested for selling information about Western technology to the Soviet bloc.

Thailand offer

Bangkok (Reuters) - Britain is prepared to take part in international financing of a \$520m petrochemical fertilizer project using natural gas from the Gulf of Thailand, according to Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, who is on a visit here.

Protestant goes

Guatemala City (AP) - Señor Ricardo Asturias Valenzuela, a Roman Catholic, has replaced Señor Jorge Serrano Elias, a Protestant, appointed by ex-President Ríos Montt, as head of the Advisory Council of State.

Jail riot death

Honolulu, Oklahoma (AP) - Governor George Nigh declared a state of emergency as police and National Guards struggled to control a riot at the Center Correctional Centre in which one prisoner died, 23 people were injured and five buildings were burnt.

Corsica blasts

Ajaccio (Reuters) - Seven bombs exploded around the Corsican capital, after 10 similar attacks in the previous seven days. Buildings owned mainly by French residents were damaged.

MiGs spotted

Tokyo (AP) - Japan's Defence Agency has confirmed that the Soviet Union is stationing MiG23 fighters on Etorofu island, off the northern island of Hokkaido. Etorofu is claimed by Japan but occupied by the Russians.

Hit premiere

Athens (AP) - Mikis Theodorakis received a standing ovation at the Greek premiere of his First Symphony, at the Herod Atticus theatre below the Acropolis. He is best known for his popular songs.

Discord ends

New York (Reuters) - The New York City Opera Orchestra has accepted a two-year contract giving 6.5 per cent annual pay increases, after a 54-day strike during which musicians picketed the theatre.

Trials stopped

Lorient (AP) - France has suspended indefinitely sea trials on a 280-ton gunboat ordered by Libya. France has already supplied Libya with nine similar vessels.

Heroin seized

Zurich (AP) - Police have seized a woman and a South American drug dealer at Zurich airport with about 11lb of heroin intended for sale in Switzerland and Italy.

Rebels routed

Maputo (AFP) - The Mozambican armed forces say they have swept through the southern province of Inhambane, destroying camps of the South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance and taking a "large number" of prisoners.

Greenland Dew

Copenhagen (AFP) - The US is to build two more radar stations in Greenland as part of the distant early warning (Dew) defence system.

Baby boom

Washington (AP) - World population grew by a record \$2,077,000 in the past 12 months, to reach 4,721,887,000, according to the US Census Bureau.

China says no

Peking (AFP) - China has rejected a Vietnamese proposal for a ceasefire until October 8 along their border.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

Furore over Bonn immigration policy

Turk leaps to death from court

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

A left-wing Turkish activist whom the Government was trying to deport yesterday committed suicide by jumping from a sixth-floor window of the Berlin courthouse where his case was being heard.

He was Mr Kemal Altun, aged 23, and his death quickly unleashed a furore in Germany. The Social Democrats accused the Government of giving more credence to the Turkish military dictators than to its democratic opponents, and said Mr Altun was a victim of the harsh new policy towards foreigners being pursued by Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the right-wing Minister of the Interior.

Mr Altun died at the start of the second day of a hearing by hurling himself through an open window in the court room as soon as his handcuffs were removed. His lawyer shouted at him "Don't do it, Kemal" as he leapt up from his seat. Attempts lasting half an hour failed to revive him.

As the leader of a now banned student group in Turkey, Mr Altun came to Berlin 18 months ago. Turkey accused him of complicity in an assassination attempt on a right-wing politician, but withdrew the charge on seeing his extradition.

He spent the past 13 months in custody while his case was considered. Amnesty International maintained he would be tortured and imprisoned if he was returned.

However, Herr Zimmermann, who has proposed various measures to encourage foreigners to leave Germany and to stop anyone obviating immigration restrictions by making use of the liberal asylum laws, insisted that he be deported.

A number of other Turkish activists have already been sent back this year, and were promptly arrested on their return. This has

helped fuel growing public disquiet over the proposed measures against foreigners, Mr Altun's deportation was delayed while his case was tested in the Federal Supreme Court in Berlin, which was expected to set a precedent. Meanwhile he appealed to the European Human Rights Commission.

Last week his brother, a member of the Turkish Parliament, told the court of torture of members of opposition groups in Turkey. The Government reacted quickly and with concern to Mr Altun's suicide. A spokesman said it was especially tragic because the difficulties of deciding whether to deliver asylum-seekers to Turkey were especially clear in his case. He said the authorities had been particularly careful to come to a fair decision.

Mulroney sweeps to victory

From John Best, Ottawa

The new leader of Canada's Progressive Conservative Party, Brian Mulroney, has won himself a seat in parliament—and, just as important, shows that he has a more widespread influence. He will take over as Opposition leader when the Commons reconvenes on September 12.

While Mr Mulroney was sweeping to an overwhelming election triumph in the Nova Scotia Riding of Central Nova on Monday, another Tory candidate was making to victory in a by-election at the opposite end of the country in British Columbia.

The victory of Mr Gerry St Germain in Mission-Port Moody, BC, was an upset. Mr St Germain, a 44-year-old poultry farmer defeated the New Democratic Party (NDP) candidate, Sophie Weremchuk, a school trustee, by more than 3,000 votes.

This could be interpreted as a sign that the photogenic and charismatic Mr Mulroney, aged 44, who won the leadership in June without ever having run for parliament, has the "coir tails" to help pull other Tory candidates into the Commons.

With 211 of 212 polls counted, Mr Mulroney had about 19,000 votes. Mr Alvin Simons, the Liberal candidate, 7,851; and Mr Roy De Marsh of the NDP, 4,109.

In a victory statement Mr Mulroney said the Tory win offered new hope, new promise and new opportunity for Canada. "There is no longer any such thing as a safe Liberal seat anywhere in Canada."



Mr Mulroney: "No safe Liberal seat left"

Aquino 'hired killer' named

Manila (AP Reuter) - The Philippines Government has identified the man it says killed the opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, and said he was a notorious "gun for hire" employed previously by crime syndicates or subverters.

The chief military investigator, Major General Prospero Olivas, said the man, who was shot dead by security forces immediately after Mr Aquino was killed on August 21, was named as Rolando Galman y Dawang.

President Marcos described the assassination as an "idiotic"

crime that no Filipino politician would commit.

At a meeting with United States Senator Mark Hatfield, yesterday, he said that only local communists stood to benefit, not his Government, his party or the opposition, according to a Presidential Palace statement.

The statement reported Senator Hatfield as saying he understood the country's problems and would urge President Reagan to carry on with his planned visit to the Philippines in November.

Cardinal Jaime Sin, Archbishop of Manila, yesterday called for a

council of national reconciliation to establish contact between the Government and the Filipino people after the Aquino murder.

Cardinal Sin, who will officiate at the funeral, in Manila today, refused to serve on the judicial panel set up by President Marcos to investigate the murder.

ESTABLISH: The Philippine Prime Minister, Mr Cesar Virata, said yesterday that - "Government elements" could have been involved in the Aquino murder (Reuter reports). In an interview he said: "We are not ruling that out. That is why an independent commission was formed."



Dance of the toreador: The bull and matador Miguel Espinosa, known as "Armillita Chico", execute an evasive two-step in their encounter at San Sebastian de los Reyes, near Madrid.

Challenger launch turns night into day

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

In a flash of flame that turned night into day the space shuttle Challenger roared into orbit from Cape Canaveral yesterday to start a six-day mission.

Rain delayed the lift-off for 17 minutes and the shuttle departed at 2.32am in the first night launching of a space craft since Apollo 17 eleven years ago.

A few hours after the launching, television pictures from the spacecraft showed the five crew members going about their work. Challenger's journey is a dramatic demonstration of the versatility of the shuttle. The space craft made the seventh shuttle flight in July and was serviced in a record 67 days.

One of the main tasks on this trip is to launch Inert-1B, a communications satellite into orbit 22,300 miles above the Indian Ocean. The satellite which will provide telephone, television, and meteorological services for India, will be launched today with the shuttle's 500-lb robot arm.

Among experiments to be conducted on board will be one which, it is hoped, will lead to a more efficient method of making insulin, leading to a new treatment for diabetes. In MOSCOW: The Soviet Union marked the launching of Challenger yesterday by renewing accusations that the United States is using the shuttle programme to militarize space. Tass said one of the crew's tasks was intended to help the Pentagon replace "spy satellites".

Norway tries to right disaster rig

Oslo (Reuter) - Norway plans a new attempt this week to right the Alexander Kielland accommodation rig, which capsized in a hurricane in the North sea over three years ago in the worst offshore rig disaster so far.

The rig capsized on March 27, 1980, killing 123 oil workers, after one of its 800-tonne steel legs

snappped loose. Oil industry experts hope a successful recovery will shed further light on the accident and improve safety.

Norwegian company Stolt-Nielsen Seaway Contracting is confident it has found a way to right the rig and it plans to begin trimming the 150ft tall steel structure tomorrow and then turn the rig two days later.

A company spokesman said the task was comparable to turning an 18-storey building upside down.

The French-built Alexander Kielland was used as a hotel by up to 350 oil workers on the Ekofisk field on Norway's North Sea continental shelf. At the time of the disaster, 232 workers were on board.

Greece fails to convince Trudeau

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, who briefly interrupted a Greek island holiday with his three sons to have official talks with the Greek leaders on Monday and Tuesday, said yesterday that he had disagreed with a Greek proposal for a six-month delay in the deployment of missiles in Europe to help pull other Tory candidates into the Commons.

Mr Trudeau said that Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, had not convinced him that the postponement of the deadline to June 1984 would improve the chances of agreement. "There has already been some movement on both sides in Geneva and this is largely due to the fact that December is the deadline", he told a press conference.

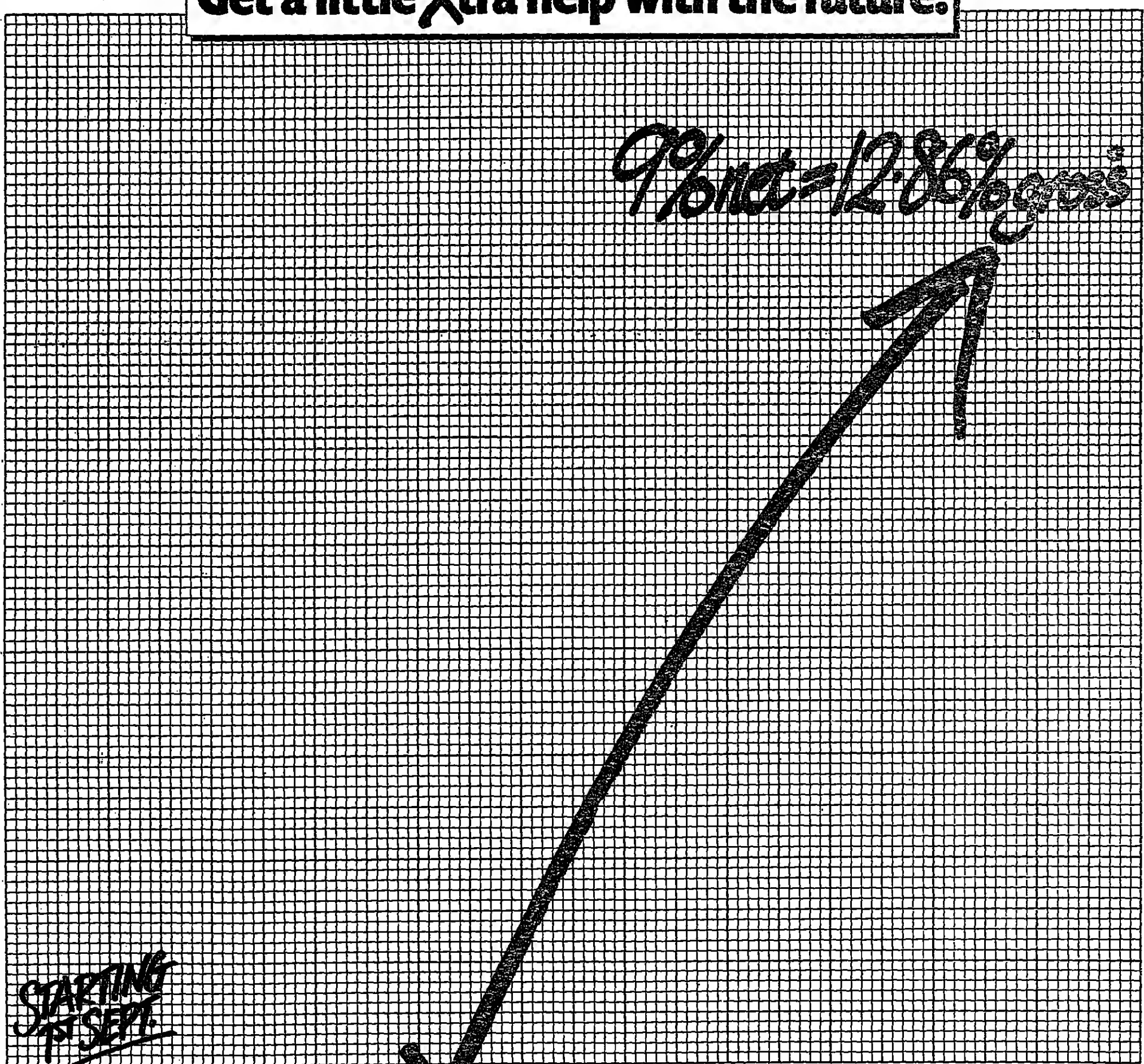
Mr Papandreu said that he had discussed at length the missile proposal with Mr Trudeau. But quite paradoxically he added: "I found his position on the issue quite logical."

The two men discussed the prospect of Canadian investments in Greece, brisker bilateral trade, and transfers of Canadian technology. At a banquet on Monday night Mr Papandreu called his Canadian colleague a "great radical" while Mr Trudeau spoke of Mr Papandreu as an "unconventional prime minister".

Mr Trudeau also asked Mr Papandreu whether the withdrawal of the Canadian contingent which served for the past 19 years with the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus, could help solve the problem, but was told that this would hardly be the appropriate time

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Walesa to defy Gdansk order - with flowers

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Lech Walesa, seen on Polish Television screens on Monday night for the first time in 20 months, is likely to be the rogue card in today's celebrations of the Gdansk agreement which exactly three years gave birth to Solidarity.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, said yesterday that the Gdansk authorities had turned down a request by Mr Walesa to hold a commemorative meeting at 2.30pm today outside the Lenin shipyards. All meetings apart from the officially sanctioned ceremony in the morning, will be considered illegal.

But Mr Walesa had made clear his determination to lay flowers at the three towering crosses, marking the death of workers in 1970, near the shipyard gates. If he does so at the time that the shift changes at the shipyards between 2 and 3 pm a natural crowd may well gather.

In a speech last week-a reply to an anti-solidarity harangue by Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski the Deputy Prime Minister-Mr Walesa invited a government representative to lay flowers with him as an act of goodwill. The sentence was cut out of the television transmission of the encounter.

Apart from the Gdansk flash-

point, there may be trouble in other cities including Nowa Huta and Warsaw. Last year on August 31 demonstrations broke out throughout the country with running street battles between the police and Solidarity supporters in well over a dozen towns and cities. Five people died as a result.

This year, the solidarity underground has not called for demonstrations but for a boycott of all public transport, and of the official press. Workers are expected to stream through the streets, meeting at 4 pm at strategic places in a number of cities including the capital. Later the protesters, if they follow the appeal, will attend a Mass for Solidarity. Any of these occasions could provoke a demonstration.

The police are on full alert, but government officials say that they do not expect serious unrest today. They point to the failure of the go-slow called by the underground over the past week - a complete fiasco - as a token that the Polish people do not want to follow the Solidarity leadership. Mr Urban quoted statistics showing that consumption of electricity by factories had increased over the past week. This showed that the go-slow had collapsed, he said.

Pacific nuclear ban fails

From Tony Dobson, Melbourne

Australia has failed to achieve a strong commitment from the members of the South Pacific Forum for its proposal for a nuclear-free Pacific.

The forum concluded its two-day meeting in Canberra yesterday with an agreement in principle to the concept of a nuclear-free zone, but ministers felt that the time was not right to adopt a declaration supporting the plan. Australia had hoped that if the forum agreed, the proposal could

have been circulated at the United Nations. This would have been an embarrassment to France.

The forum appeared split between those who said that the Australian proposal did not go far enough and those who said that it went too far. Australia, supported by New Zealand, has proposed that US vessels should be allowed transit rights within the framework of a nuclear-free Pacific.

*ALL INTEREST RATES QUOTED ARE VARIABLE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE 1.75% PREMIUM WHICH IS GUARANTEED FOR TWO YEARS. GROSS RATES APPLY TO BASIC RATE TAXPAYERS. HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY, PO BOX 60, TRINITY ROAD, HALIFAX HD1 2RG.

Iskander Harappa married into Raza Hyder's family after Hyder had lost his first born son. Harappa patronizes his disappointed relative and appoints him as his personal trusty to reorganize his defeated army. But the roles are suddenly reversed in this third extract of Shame as Salman Rushdie concludes his fictional examination of the Zia-Bhutto rift and its continuing reverberations in Pakistan today.



SUCH IS THE SHAPE OF DEATH

General Hyder would remember to his dying day the time he had visited Iskander Harappa to discuss the defence budget and been slapped across the face for his pains. "Expenditure is falling below acceptable levels, Isky," he informed the prime minister, and to his astonishment Harappa banged on his desk so fiercely that the Mont Blanc pens jumped in their holders and the shadows in the corners hissed with alarm. "Acceptable to whom?" Iskander Harappa shouted. "The army does not say what goes, mister. No longer. Get that into your head. If we allot you 50 paise a year, then that is what you must make do with. Get that straight and get out."

prime minister of the coup. "Beg for pardon, sir, but you must accompany me at once to the Bagheeragali rest house." Iskander Harappa realized that he had failed to grasp the meaning of his reverie, and smiled at his own stupidity. "You see, Arjumand," he said, "they want to feed me to the panther, isn't it so?" Then he turned to Shuja and asked who had given such orders. "Chief Martial Law Administrator, sir," the colonel replied. "General Hyder, sir, beg for pardon." "Look at my back," Iskander told his daughter, "and you will see a coward's knife."



inside, or 420 Havana cigars all smoking away at the same time. Isky Harappa cursed Raza for an hour and a half without permitting any interruption. Betel juice and the absence of tobacco added to his already enormous vocabulary of imprecations a deadlier rancour than it had ever possessed in the days of his rakehell youth. By the time he finished the walls of that room were spattered from top to bottom with betel juice, the curtains were ruined, it looked as if a herd of animals had been slaughtered in there, as if turkeys or goats had been struggling wildly in their death-throes, rushing around the room with the blood spewing from the red smiles on their throats. Raza Hyder came out with paan juice dripping off his clothes, his moustache was full of it and his hands shook as the red fluid dripped off his fingertips, as if his hands had been washed in a bowl of Iskander's lifeblood. His face was paper-white.

kept there in solitary confinement. He suffered from malaria and from infections of the colon. There were bouts of severe influenza. His teeth began to fall out and he lost weight in other ways as well. The trial took place in the High Court at Lahore, before five Punjab judges. At one point Iskander used the phrase, "Damn it," and was reprimanded for the use of bad language in court. He apologized: "My state of mind is not good." The Chief Justice replied: "We don't care." This made Iskander lose his temper. "I've had enough," he cried, "of insults and humiliations." The Chief Justice ordered police officers: "Take that man away until he regains his senses." Another judge added the following remark: "We cannot tolerate this. He thinks he is the former Prime Minister, but we do not care for him." All this is on the record.

to some use before before it all goes to waste. Four guards in the corridor, too in short, plenty of company. And sometimes they let his lawyers pay a call. Through the door of the iron bars comes the stink of the latrine. In the winter he shivers but the low temperature takes the edge off that brown and foetid smell. In the hot season they switch off the ceiling fan and the odour bubbles and swells, stuffing its putrid fingers up his nose, making his eyes bulge even though his tear ducts are dry. Two years from fall to hanging, and almost the whole time spent in the enclosed space of death. If it is a dream, and sometimes in the fever of his days he thinks it is, then (he also knows) the dreamer is someone else. He is inside the dream, or he would not be able to touch dream-insects, dream-water would not burn him... someone is dreaming him. God, then? No, not God. He struggles to remember Raza Hyder's face.

Chairman Iskander Harappa developed a toothache 30 seconds before the jets surrounded his home in the capital of unwanted airport terminals. The laughter Arjumand had just said something that tempted fate, and whenever anybody did that it made all Iskander's betel-blackened teeth howl with superstitious anguish, especially after midnight, when such things are even more dangerous than they seem in the daylight.

Chairman Iskander Harappa was taken from Bagheeragali rest house to the Kot Lakhpat jail in Lahore. He was

May I interpose a few words here on the subject of the Islamic revival? It won't take long. Pakistan is not Iran. This may sound like a strange thing to say about the country which was, until Khomeini, one of the only two theocracies on earth (the other being the Vatican). It is my opinion that Pakistan has never been a mullah-dominated society. The religious extremists of the Jamaat party have their supporters among the college students and so forth, but relatively few people have ever voted Jamaat in an election. Jinnah himself, the Founder or Quaid-i-Azam, doesn't strike me as a particularly God-bothered type. Islam and the Muslim state were, for him, political and cultural ideas; the theology was not the point.

mentalism" does not spring in Pakistan, from the people. It is imposed on them from above. Autocratic regimes find it useful to espouse the rhetoric of faith, because people respect that language; are reluctant to oppose it. This is how religions shore up dictators; by encircling them with words of power, words which the people are reluctant to see decried, discredited, discredited, mocked. But the ramming-down-the-throat point stands. In the end you get sick of it, you lose faith in the faith, if not quite faith then certainly as the basis for a state. And then the dictator falls, and it is discovered that he has brought God down with him, that the justifying myth of the nation has been unmade. This leaves only two options: disintegration, or a new dictatorship... no, there is a third, and I shall not be so pessimistic as to deny its possibility. The third option is the substitution of a new myth for the old one. Here are three such myths, all available from stock at short notice: liberty; equality; fraternity. I recommend them highly.

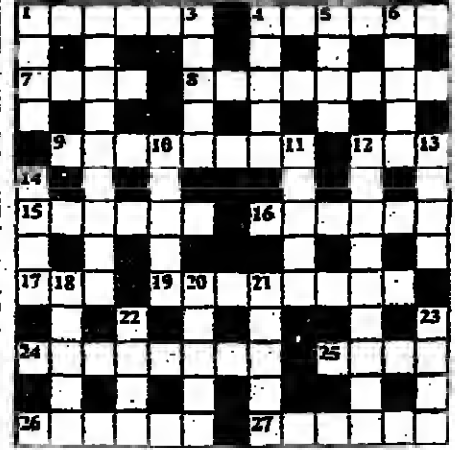
moreover... Miles Kington

Whispers of old army boots

Reminiscent military fiction marches on! The success of Mills and Boon, moreover's new imprint, which satisfies both male and female fantasies, seems unstoppable. The secret of their tender, shrewdly chosen is that they are as soft as an eyelash, yet as uncompromising as a kick in the shin with an army boot. Accordingly we present to eager readers a small run-down of new titles on our list.

Horror of Love, by Constance Fawcett. High in the skies over Darling the Spitfire and Messerschmitt twisted and turned, each trying to gain supremacy over the other. "Horror of Love," at the controls of the Spitfire, had already shot down 20 Huns, yet she knew that this time she had an opponent worthy of her. "Get you out!" she whispered, as the turned and banked towards the sleek shape of the German plane. But all she saw was empty sky. Glancing back over her shoulder, she saw with horror the Messerschmitt coming down at her out of the sun. There was no way she could escape now. With resignation, she pulled her head into her neck and closed her eyes. "We'll meet again, We'll meet again, we'll meet again," she sang to herself, as the plane dived towards her. "Not at all," said Joan briskly. "I am looking for adventure, a hard life and a bit of a surfer."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 137)



ACROSS: 1 Calm (6), 2 Chipped (6), 3 Swear word (4), 4 Taut area (4,4), 5 Washing letter (8), 6 Aged (3), 7 Enthusiastic (6), 8 Shooting star (6), 9 Floor covering (3), 10 Great delight (8), 11 Speak incoherently (5), 12 Sloping wall (4), 13 Force (6), 14 Off race group (6). DOWN: 1 Support (4), 2 Space traveller (9), 3 Bobbed (5), 4 Wanderer (5), 5 Money (4), 6 Laid (5), 7 Father (5), 8 Eyeglasses (5), 9 In the red (9), 10 Dissuasive (4), 11 Blow (4), 12 Approval (5), 13 Large guest house (5), 14 Poem (4), 15 Pointed end (4), 16 Long poem (4).

WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

The radical chic of it all

I am - aren't we all? - a member of a nuclear family, and the four-month-old baby is by far the most potent piece of weaponry...

Central Richmond Isthmus. Where then? I have a hunch it emanates from the Street Radical's preserve...

First meeting of SPOC (Summer Party Organization Committee). We are cheezy Street Radical in his surprisingly bijou dwelling...

SALT talks reconvened at, where else? the breakfast table. My son standing out for increased spending on conventional arms...

My son appears with a gaudy brochure of the desired hardware. Jane's Fighting Planes could have unveiled its readership with such vivid display...

I take another look at the pamphlet of death and am intrigued as to where it came from. Petranella's boys? I doubt it...



TALKBACK

Still in fear

From a reader in south-west London As one of those "battered wives" we hear so much about...

For years I was married to a very violent man until I finally escaped with my two sons to a Woman's Aid refuge...

What this means is that I can never be free of him. He will always know where I am, what I do, whom I see and who visits me...

I lost my home and all my possessions (my sense of respect everything else) and I can hardly be said to have gained my freedom or even peace of mind...

Cervical cancer

From Dr O. A. N. Husain, Regional Cytology Centre, The Division of Pathology, Victoria Health Authority, St Stephen's Hospital, Chelsea, SW10.

Your article, "How Screen Tests Can Save Lives" (August 17), has missed an important point at issue. The screening programme of the NHS carries out about three million smears each year to cover the 15 to 17 million women at risk from cervical cancer...

A breakdown in the CRUET talks, with a chasm between the two superpowers (wife and self), and heightened tension among the client states. I realize now that we have gone multilateral (beleaguered on all sides).

Radical roars down the road in his poor man's Range-Rover - the Rancho Sumatra or Macho Sinatra or whatever it is - and my bunch about the pamphlet hardens into a conviction.

Second SPOC meeting. It now transpires that party proceeds are to go to CND, at which point the pensioners, and Petranella, stand up to leave. There is no warlike aspect to match that of the Old Dear when roused...

A compromise: party profits will now go to the NSPCC. Save the Parents will not take this lying down.



COMMENT

Why don't you call me sometime?

By C. J. White

The easy-going doctor-patient relationship of the local Medical Aid Societies of the past has long gone. The family doctor then would make his rounds on foot, or maybe in an old banger...

The family surgery has been replaced by a modern health centre. The patient public wait on terraced rows of benches as at a tennis match. They face a glassed-in area filled with women who tap typewriters, shuffle papers and gossip on telephones...

Sclerosis therapy

From Dr P. B. James I would like to correct a number of points in the article "MS dispute" (Medical Briefing, August 5). The use of hyperbaric oxygen in the treatment of multiple sclerosis is not based on my proposition that the cause of the initial damage in the disease is the blockage of the microcirculation of the nervous system by fat particles.

These ideas were the subject of an article in The Lancet last year, but reports of improvement with intermittent high pressure oxygen have been published independently in six countries over the last 13 years, and relate to more than 700 patients. These have been confirmed by controlled animal studies and a double-blind, controlled trial in multiple sclerosis sufferers at New York University, despite the utilization of oxygen in a way appropriate to a pharmaceutical preparation.

Veronica Grocock talks to a woman to whom keeping the house clean is a painful obsession

Betty Friedan, the American writer, once declared, in a variation on Parkinson's Law, that "housework expands to fill the time available". The year was 1963, and Ms Friedan's book, The Feminist Mystique, became a seminal feminist text for its exposure of the "bored housewife" syndrome. Despite the benefits of labour-saving gadgets, she observed, the modern housewife probably spent more time on housework than her grandmother did.

Twenty years on, June Quehen's bungalow in Lewes, a microcosm of neatness in this small, spruce Sussex town, is tangible testimony to the claim. She shares it with husband Steve, a freelance composer and arranger, their 13-year-old son Timothy, and a cat called Mu-On.

The family home is spotless, utterly devoid of dust and clutter. Walls and surfaces gleam, most of the furniture is modern and functional, and every item has its allotted place. Nothing less would satisfy June Quehen, whose desire for a ddy home oversteps normal boundaries of domestic punctiliousness. Her days are dominated by a punishing ritual of cleaning, washing, polishing, in strict ritual order, from nine in the morning until teatime (shopping, cooking and other chores have to be fitted in later). It is a daily obsession that has remained with her throughout 31 years of marriage, despite all attempts to thwart it with drugs, psychotherapy and electric shock treatment.

A saner, dressed, intelligent and articulate woman of 35, June Quehen can rationalize her bizarre obsession, and even joke about it, albeit to a weary, déjà vu fashion. But if she ever tries to stop the ritual, she becomes hysterical or deeply depressed.

"The depression seems to lift when I've finished cleaning," she says. "I feel I've achieved something at the end of each day. I haven't, but my head feels clearer." The family suffer terribly. The thought of any mess is devastating. "I live in terror of burglars," she recalls wryly, "he was an exceptionally tidy burglar". The Quehens rarely entertain at home, because of the inevitable disruption to her routine. Yet it is hard to reconcile June Quehen's poised, outgoing manner and well-groomed appearance with the "obsessional" tag. She seems the antithesis of the fustered household drudge.

"It's a big act," she says, "a facade that I've adopted over the years. I go to great lengths not to make people feel uncomfortable. I can keep up appearances, but I get in such a terrible state inside that I feel sick with it. It makes friendships a bit limited. I often wonder what would happen if the house was on fire. I'm



sure I would still have to finish cleaning it!"

Although she laughs now and again at what she terms her "madness", she is only too aware of the resultant strains on family life. She still feels guilty about her decision to send Timothy, an only child, to boarding school. "He was only eight. I wouldn't allow his friends in the house, and that is so very bad for a child. He couldn't play or develop properly. I was always tidying his toys and putting them away."

Timothy, who plans to move out soon and share a flat, is reticent by nature, but admits that his mother's obsessive behaviour has been "getting on my nerves quite a bit over the past few months. It does affect you, because of other things on my mind like trying to get a job."

"My mum comes into my room and dusts around, but not if I have friends here. A mate I have known for six or seven years has got used to it. I don't usually tell my friends because it's too long a story - not that it would bother me if someone found out. A couple of years ago it might have done."

Steve Quehen rents a small office in Brighton. In their previous home, he worked in a converted garage in the basement. As a composer/arranger he needed to surround himself with stacks of paper.

"It was not that messy and muddy", he recalls, "but I liked to think it could have been... June never really liked the room. She thought it was a nasty, dirty hole. I was always rather unhappy that she didn't like that atmosphere of muddle."

"I knew she was a depressive. The obsession seemed to arise out of the depression. It crept up without one expecting it."

"I used to take Tim out on Sundays to get him out of the way when he was quite little. I always felt that June couldn't function till I was out of her way. Only if she was really 'out of extremis' would I be diverted from my work. Ooe chucks the sponge in then, and stays up a couple of hours to make up ome. She always gave me as much freedom as she possibly could to work."

"One copes because one has to. I have got so used to it that it really doesn't matter any more. I have a nice clean home..."

"What really distresses me is seeing June become increasingly tired by this obsession as the years

talent. 'The Devil makes work for idle hands' is very opposite in this situation."

Colin Blowers, a behaviour therapist with a cursing background at Brighton's New Sussex Hospital, emphasizes the vital role of the therapist, a friend or relative who can be taught the correct approach and responses in the patient's treatment - the pat on the back when a ritualistic urge is curbed, the ready cup of tea or coffee as reward for achieving mutually agreed "targets". He has found that about 50 per cent of obsessive patients can be helped. About three people per thousand develop obsessive problems of various kinds, he says, and men are equally prone to the condition.

Psychiatric theories as to what triggered off June Quehen's obsession range from a traumatic affair with a married man when she was 18, to her upbringing. She says she was a "typical" teenager, very tidy, but never had a real "base". Her other was housekeeper to a clergyman: "It was very much an upstairs/downstairs life. When I married I had a place of my own, I wanted to make it perfect."

At the back of her mind, she is uneasy about losing her obsession, frightened of the void it would leave in such a rigidly structured life. One remaining option is a brain operation. Anxious though she is to find a cure, June Quehen feels this would be too drastic a step. "Better the devil you know than be some kind of vegetable."

Too clean for comfort

John Manning

How these 'rituals' can be treated

Street. "Obsessionality", he says, "is a matter of degree. Everybody is obsessive. Some people have to spend the first hour getting up, washing, dressing and so on, in a very ritualistic fashion. It is a normal coping mechanism."

"It's when the rituals start to eat into, and take over, other parts of the waking day that they become pathological."

He believes that an obsession with housework often stems from excessive conditioning into the traditionally female role. "Some women become obsessively guilty because they are 'only' housewives - forgetting that they are doing the most tricky job of all: bringing up young kids and looking after a home."

"The general theme is under-used

Naughty but nice

By the time she had finished writing The Ultimate Chocolate Book, Jennie Reekie, this week's guest cook, was better friends with her neighbours but not with her bathroom scales. Here she shares two favourite recipes from the new book (Word Cook, October 31).

Being something of a "choc-aholic", I was delighted when I was commissioned to write a book on chocolate. My 12-year-old daughter was ecstatic at the thought and, even though the 14-year-old, who is far more practical than the rest of us, muttered about spots and getting fat, I think even she was secretly looking forward to tasting the results.

I started the research and testing, and spent some glorious hours making (and tasting) decorations, dark rich cakes, mousses and puddings. But I had finished only about one third of it, about 50 recipes, when the borrow of what I had undertaken began to dawn on me. Already several pounds heavier, I found myself feeling a deep sympathy for the people who work in chocolate factories. No wonder they develop an antipathy towards the stuff.

Although the culprit in this case happened to be chocolate, I am sure exactly the same thing would happen if I were asked to write as many recipes for smoked salmon or caviare. Not surprisingly the girls quickly tired of being offered chocolate cake for breakfast, followed by a choice of chocolate desserts for lunch and dinner, and as time was getting increasingly short for me to finish the manuscript, I did not have time to do any other cooking as well, so they had to resort to making themselves omelettes and toasted sandwiches.

What to do with the plethora of goodies I was turning out almost daily was becoming a problem I gave them away to friends and neighbours and, feeling rather like Snow White's stepmother, I would swoop out of the cottage to offer comparative strangers a variety of chocolate cakes, biscuits, fudges, ice-creams and similar goodies.

I know I should have been efficient and put them in the freezer, but at the time I did not think I would ever be able to face them again. Nor were they suitable for the next school fête as they all looked rather as if a mouse had been nibbling at them after I had had my obligatory taste.

It did come to an end of course, and, even at the time we all felt we never wanted to eat anything chocolate again there were a few things that were so good we all found them irresistible. Rum cake

crumbs. Put the chocolate, coffee and water into a basin. Stand over a pan of hot water and leave until the chocolate has melted and the coffee dissolved. Remove from the heat. Whisk the egg yolks and sugar in a large bowl until they are thick and creamy, then gradually beat in the chocolate and then the vanilla essence. Whisk the egg whites until they are stiff, then fold into the chocolate mixture.

Fill the dish with about three quarters of the mixture, cover the remainder and chill in the refrigerator. Bake the contents of the flan dish in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°f gas mark 4) for 25 minutes. Turn off the oven and bake for a further 5 minutes, then remove from the oven and leave to cool for two hours. Fill the cavity in the centre with the remaining mixture and chill for 30 minutes. Whip the cream and spread over the top, then sprinkle the top with chocolate curls or grated chocolate.

Rum cake is a moist chocolate cake. It is noticed, but should be served with lashings of whipped cream or creme chantilly. It is best kept for at least 24 hours before serving so that it becomes very soft and moist, but once cut it should be eaten as soon as possible.

Although I found chocolate mousse torte as an American recipe, I think it is probably German in origin. I found similar cake recipes in my researches, but they were not as successful as this one, which is rather unusual in that you first bake about three-quarters of the mixture, which rises, rather like a soufflé, and then sinks as it cools. You then fill the hole in the middle with the remainder of the uncooked mixture to make a filling.

Well grease and line a 19-20cm (7½-8in) round cake tin. Sift together the flour and bicarbonate of soda. Sift the cocoa into a basin and stir in the water and rum. Cream the butter and sugar together until light; the high proportion of sugar to butter means that it will not become as light as there are equal proportions. Gradually beat in the eggs, a little at a time. Carefully fold in the almonds, then the flour and cocoa mixture alternately. Turn into the prepared tin and bake in a preheated moderate oven (160°C/325°F gas mark 3) for about one hour or until the centre of the cake springs back when lightly pressed. Cool in the tin for five minutes, turn out and cool on a wire rack. Wrap in greaseproof paper and foil or place in a tin until required.

Lightly butter a 23cm (9in) deep flan dish or tin (about 1.2 litre/2 pint capacity) and coat with dry bread

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THE ARTS

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Bridget Reilly's long interest in the dynamics of form and colour has at last, perhaps inevitably, turned her to designing for dance: Ballet Rambert premiere Robert North's Colour Moves at the King's Theatre tomorrow. Interview by Roger Berthoud

Shining visions of an abstract future

Bridget Reilly with her wall decorations for the Royal Liverpool Hospital and (right) working with assistants on the designs for Colour Moves



Given Bridget Reilly's deep interest as an abstract painter in the dynamic properties of form and colour, it was an inspired idea of the Ballet Rambert's artistic director, Robert North, to commission her to design a new ballet to her first. Judging by a model at her home in Holland Park, her work is likely to make a strong impact when Colour Moves has its debut at the Edinburgh Festival tomorrow. North has done the choreography, the music is by Christopher YOUNG and the costumes by Andrew Storer.

A slim woman of 51 with short, dark hair and very blue eyes, she explains how she set about the task. "Robert North invited me to go first, as it were: that is, to design the sets first. The music and choreography would then be set to the visual situation I had made. That was a tremendously exciting challenge.

"Robert liked the studies I had pinned up around the studio, he liked the way one colour reacted upon another, and thought that we could make an abstract colour ballet on the basis of these relationships. Initially I took five colours and designed five backcloths, each dominated by one colour. The sequence of the cloths had to be thought about: red and yellow form natural high points, for instance, while blues and greens are quieter.

Why stripes rather than the more complex designs on which her international reputation was built? "They have the maximum exposure of edge," she says, "and it's along the edges that the interactions take place. When two colours interact, they produce a third, disembodied colour which takes the form of coloured light and seems to come off the canvas. Viewing distance is crucial, and so is the light in which it is seen: daylight is by far the best. She was not, she points out, aiming for any interaction of that sort in the recently unveiled wall decoration for some corridors of the Royal Liverpool Hospital, but rather for an effect of brilliance and well-being.

But she was allowed to concentrate on art, and progressed rapidly with the guidance of the art master, Colin Hayes, now at the Royal College of Art and a Royal Academician; and did very well thereafter at the Goldsmiths School of Art thanks to a fine drawing teacher, Sam Rabin. It was well subsequently in the freer atmosphere of the Royal College of Art. Only when she later met the painter Maurice de Sausmarez were her eyes properly opened, via the work of Seurat, to a surer handling of colour, hitherto her main weakness.

"I had ten years in the wilderness, lost confidence, fell into despair, all those things." She taught teenagers in a convent school, she taught at night schools and at Wandsworth Prison. Working with children I discovered more inventive the results. I would use reds only, and cover the area so that the reds touch each other. You would be amazed at the variety of the results. Then came two stretches as a sort of roving draughtsman with the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency, which were good for her confidence; she learnt that one had to work through problems, and that she could work to order.

Promenade Concerts Each for himself

Bream Consort St Luke's, Chelsea/Radio 3

This was a period piece, in more ways than one. James Savage's splendid church of St Luke, Chelsea, where John Goss and John Ireland were organists, is a welcome addition to Prom venues: it accommodates 900 people, though with evidently poor sightlines from the galleries, and has a fine nave 60 feet high (when it was built in the 1920s, it was the first high stone-vaulted church to be attempted since the Reformation). The simple resonance of the church, however, would make it more suitable for a Prom of choral music - Tallis and Schutz in 1987 - than it was for the busy detail of the consort music performed by Julian Bream and friends.

No one has done more to alert us to the splendours of Elizabethan music than Bream. And years ago he gave pioneering performances of the consort pieces from Thomas Morley's famous collection of Lessons. More recently he decided to re-form his own Consort, and it has made several tours. But the principle on which it operates is still that of a couple of decades ago: brilliant, unimpaired performances by Bream himself in the centre of the ensemble, scattering away like some seventeenth-century Gullinui with the written-out divisions of Morley's arrangements, surrounded by sober, straight-faced accompaniments from the rest of the group.

Bream does encourage his collaborators to blossom: there were some nicely-turned exchanges with the treble viol of Catherine Macintosh in "Ornistruck", and the whole ensemble acquired a crisp rhythmic life in the "Monstrous Almain" (a setting attributed to Byrd). But on the whole there is no improvisatory spark perceptible here; phrasing is dull, articulation routine, and it is Bream's show.

So it was solo virtuosity that made the strongest impression: Bream's own multicoloured "Allison's Knell", James Tyler's kneeling in Holborne's setting of "As I went to Walsingham" and at the end - not a moment too soon - the divertingly mellifluous rendering of the Morley songs (with Robert Tur, there was little here which acknowledged the strides forward made in the three decades since Bream's early work, but more worrying, there was little that gave an impression of sparkling, animated musical interplay - I heard far more of that in Jazz in Britain in the car on my way home).

Nicholas Kenyon

RPO/Groves Albert Hall/Radio 3

No orchestra can be envied the task of playing a note of Sibelius so soon after the CBSO's provocative and regenerating South Bank cycle under Simon Rattle. But advance programming is mercurial, and the Royal Philharmonic with Sir Charles Groves is put to the test in Sibelius's Fifth Symphony on Monday night's Prom.

It was a reading which seemed to be being heard from somewhere behind Sibelius's shoulder, rather than by ears already quickened by the harmonic and structural disruption of the century it was reaching out to. With its gently shaped contours, its sense of almost affectionate resignation rather than bleakness, it became more a corporate valediction than an isolated quest.

At least, it would be nice to think that that, through lack of the score's being anything like deep enough under the skin, the players were simply prevented from reaching its stark, uncompromising heart. For too often even its own vision seemed curiously ill-defined: legato was too often flaccid where it should be tense, climaxes were laboriously rather than inexorably approached, entries and ensemble were blurred.

Earlier in the evening, Alfred Brendel had been the soloist in the equally enigmatic, constantly perplexing Fourth Piano Concerto of Beethoven. For Brendel on Monday it seemed a fountain of ideas to put to the test the more rarely played second cadenza, less brooding in its insistence, more brittle and harmonically abrasive, was used in the first movement; and it seemed to emphasize the mercurial, almost teasing character of the reading as a whole. Even the slow movement, glassy, still and wide-eyed, could have been a trompe l'oeil - and too often one could have wished that the orchestra, with its reluctant and lack-lustre repertoire, had been just that.

Hilary Finch

The guitarist John Williams is to be artistic director of South Bank Summer Music 1984. He succeeds Simon Rattle, and is the seventh to hold the post since its inception in 1968.

Nicholas Kenyon

What a Night!...What a Knight Sir John Mills in Little Lies WYNDHAMS THEATRE

Theatre in Edinburgh

Women in Power Music Hall

John McGrath's "decent adaptation" of Aristophanes is the debut for General Gathering, a new Scottish branch of the 194 company, devoted to producing classics of popular theatre. Women in Parliament, first staged about 1993 BC, has long been ripe for rediscovers by radical theatre, with its central idea, as wittily subversive as that in the better-known Lysistrata, of women disguised in their husbands' clothes packing the Athenian Assembly to vote themselves equal with men.

In this version, however, it gets wrenched aside in mid-course for a vigorous farcical attack on the one woman who is in power, currently, in Downing Street. Aristophanes' earlier play, The Knights, with its onslaught on the demagogue Cleon, provides the model and Mr McGrath has the defeated males stage this episode as anti-feminist propaganda - nonsensically, since Fraxagora and her followers are too good socialists to provide any such threat.

Up to that point the show has been truly, slow and, despite everyone's laboured efforts, unfunny. Those of us who stayed after the interval got some above-average Thatcher-beating with a genuinely Aristophanic flavour, puns on the name of Grantham and a missile-shaped phallos (topped with a union jack) on the

Anthony Masters

Music outside London

Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra Christ Church, Oxford

When the English Bach Festival slipped away from Oxford a few years ago in seek pastures new in Europe, it left a gap in the professional musical life of the city (as distinct from its always flourishing amateur activities). "Music at Oxford", a series of 21 concerts which ended at the weekend, is hardly a parallel undertaking for it uses only one venue - Christ Church Cathedral, and has in its first season been confined to the summer, out-of-term months.

But its programmes, unsubsidized by grants, have been splendid, and, to judge from the packed cathedral on Sunday, it certainly fills a need. It was oddly appropriate that this final concert should have presented the new Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra under Ton Koopman, at the end of a British tour which has now included London; for it was back in 1975 that Koopman's earlier group, Musica Antiqua Amsterdam, appeared in the Bach Festival at Oxford with Philippe Herreweghe's Collegium Vocale of Ghent in a pair of unforgettable concerts.

Koopman's new ensemble is not just Dutch: like its rival, Frans Bruggen's Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century (which visits Edinburgh next week), its membership is international, and the string section, led by Monica Huggett, is almost entirely English. Thus the finest skills of continental wind players are matched with the facility - which continental colleagues envy us - of our string players. The results

Television

Sonorous phrases with all too little meaning

Alan Greenberg originally intended Land of Look Behind to be a documentary about the funeral of Bob Marley, the reggae singer and song-writer who died of cancer in Miami aged 36 in 1981. In a short, tempestuous life, Marley became known as a Third World superstar, sold his records all around the world and became a legend in his native Jamaica.

To mark his passing, 100,000 people gathered there in the national arena to celebrate him in song and verse. Something that may have happened to Mr Greenberg at this vivid fiction, for the documentary got away from him and what we saw last night on Channel 4 was described as a documentary fantasy which seemed, and proved to be, a contraction in terms.

Much of the film, which was excellently shot, was in semi-Creole and, though subtitles were provided, they were not generous enough to satisfy the curious about the Rastafarian belief, which Marley embraced, or even the reggae music he did so much to establish.

We began with a man chopping wild pineapple and plucking forth the toads that dwell therein. It seemed we might be in for an interesting nature lecture but he moved on to speak of the fearful forest of Look Behind, which lurked near the village of Quick Step in which he lived and to plead for industry and aid for his people, which seemed very necessary.

This sally into development themes, however, was as short-lived as the nature lecture, and soon we were into a bewildering world of dreadlocks, reggae music and much smoking of ganja, an intoxicating preparation made, I understand, from the female flowering tops of Indian hemp.

Dennis Hackett

Theatre in the United States Clash of 'reality' and dramatic structure

Chaplin Music Center, Los Angeles

After one has reconciled oneself to the fact that Anthony Newley is as dissimilar to Charles Chaplin as John Barrymore was to Fatty Arbuckle, there are certain pleasures to be derived from Chaplin, a large-scale musical currently at the Music Center in Los Angeles before going for broke on Broadway. Chief among these are the set-designs by Douglas W. Schmidt, whose Victorian evocations on an adjustable raked stage achieve effects which are almost as subtle as they are spectacular. Most of the show's flashbacks take place in theatre-boxes on either side of a sumptuous nineteenth-century music-hall proscenium and, brilliantly abetted by Willa Kim's costumes and Ken Billington's lighting (a magical combination of projections and back-lighting behind transparent gauze), Chaplin justifies the old saw about leaving the theatre whistling the scenery. It is the most fetching part of an uneven evening.

Newley and his collaborator Stanley Ralph Ross have, within the confines of the musical comedy format, attempted nothing less than a full-scale biography. The whole Chaplinesque saga is here - the Dickensian poverty, the demented mother, the music-hall turns, the American tour of the Fred Karno troupe, the early collaboration with Stan Laurel (an uncannily accurate impersonation by Jim MacGeorge), the whirlwind silent screen success, the coming of talkies, the pre-marital and post-marital scandals, the political wrangles and charges of communist sympathy which eventually led to Swiss exile and an emotional let's-kiss-and-make-up reconciliation at the 1972 Academy Award ceremonies.

It is the kind of remorseless historical sequence which, in the context of a well-written book, whizzes the reader from the turn of the century to the modern day with all the velocity of the biographer's art. In a musical, however, one needs a much more selective, not to say fanciful, treatment of actuality. For instance, the scene of Gypsy, where Gypsy Rose Lee's rise to stellar toplessness is obliquely chronicled from the viewpoint of a pushy and frustrated showbiz mum. Here, the biographical facts are largely undigested and one is unaware of any interpretation being placed on events - other than that Chaplin was a genius and Newley is out to commemorate the fact.

The moments in which the Chaplin persona are actually evoked are few and far between, the most successful being a revival of the music-hall act in which Mack Sennett is supposed to have first spotted the comedian. This is a rough-and-tumble opera-burlesque ("Madame Butterfly" after Puccini) in which Newley effectively comports himself in the guise of the accident-prone drunk in whom one can already discern the tramp-figure of the early two-reelers. The other highpoints of the evening, a tenuous reproduction of the Lancashire Lads act, one of Chaplin's first stage appearances, and a kind of Pearly King-and-Queen tap-dance, are lively period reconstructions. Whenever the show feeds off the music-hall tradition, it comes astonishingly to life. As soon as it enters the realm of personal reflection and musical comedy on internal states, it dwindles into listless songs and stock conventions.

Chaplin's greatest invention was probably the twentieth-century idea of celebrity. Before him, no one was an internationally-



Newley's Chaplin with the uncannily accurate Stan Laurel of Jim MacGeorge

recognized superstar. He set the pattern for all the other Hollywood Greats - even to commingling personal scandal with creative achievement. What sustains Chaplin the musical is the fascination of its central subject and the fidelity with which history is told. What saps its energies is the aforementioned lustreless score, an uncertainty as to what kind of musical idiom is best suited to make its points and letting "real life" dictate the curve of the dramatic structure.

The musical form thrives on diversions and digressions rather than solid chronological progression. Show-stoppers are almost always arbitrary items that simply glory in song and dance no matter what their pertinence to the main design - as, for instance, in Gilbert and Sullivan. That happens once or twice during the show, but never sufficiently strongly to break the dogged continuity.

Newley is almost as interesting a phenomenon as Chaplin. A child star in England who quickly made a success as a singer, writer and movie-maker, he falls into that now-familiar category of artist whose versatility is unquestionable but who is never quite the sum total of his parts. Musically, using a heavily pulsating vibrato, he always struck me as parodying the act of singing. As an actor, he had a certain rough cockney charm which effectively combined guile and opportunism. As a writer and purveyor of musical entertainments, he was always mired in sentimentality and, no doubt, his fascination for Chaplin arises because he identifies so strongly with the comedian's most sordid trait - a compulsive tendency to play for pathos.

To be fair to him, Newley's energy and creativity are precisely the stuff out of which commercial success is made and, as a kind of modern incarnation of Dion Boucicault, he has both visibility and a certain popular appeal. Unfortunately, in tackling a subject of such proportions, he invites inevitable comparisons - and, no matter what faults we may find with Chaplin's cinematic persona, he was a consummate artist and one of the most dominant influences of his time. For a supernumerated pop-singer with no apparent gift for visual comedy to try to essay Chaplin's comic genius is hitting off oot only more than he can chew but even more than he can comfortably wedge into his mouth.

Nicholas Kenyon

What a Night!...What a Knight Sir John Mills in Little Lies WYNDHAMS THEATRE

حزبان الاصل

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THE TIMES DIARY

Red scare

Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West and chairman of the GLC arts committee, has written to Cecil Parkinson, as chairman of the Conservative Party, to protest Ken Livingstone from physical violence. What excites Banks' concern is a remark attributed to Sir William Gibson Clark, the Tories' finance chairman, that if Livingstone succeeds in getting a stand at this year's Conservative Party conference "it would need police protection from some right-wing Tories". This, Banks claims, is an incitement to violence. "Imagine the headlines had a Labour Party representative made such a statement about Labour conference delegates", he says, reasonably enough. Livingstone is determined to organize a GLC stand while the Conservatives are in Blackpool, if not in the conference hall then in an adjacent hotel, whether or not Parkinson sends a reassuring reply.

Stay cool

Sir Roy Strong must be glad the heat is off. At the very time that his attack on London theatres was launched in these pages - "human bodies cooped up together in an air-conditioned space" - visitors to his own new Henry Cole wing at the V & A were repeatedly getting stuck in the air-conditioned lift, an hour at a time in barely endurable temperatures, the only firm that could rescue them having to be called from Clapham. The pot may get away with calling the kettle black, but should avoid calling it hot.

● Sir Philip Goodhart's letter to *The Times* yesterday asked the most appropriate precious metal, mineral or gem to give his wife for their forthcoming 33rd wedding anniversary. Anxious to help, I looked up atomic number 33 in the periodic table of elements. It is arsenic.

New view

Somali television burst upon an avid world at the weekend with its first test transmissions. The fledgling service is a multinational effort, with Kuwaitis building the transmission station, Italians setting up the national network and Egyptians training personnel. Iraqis were to be involved, but in the event were too busy killing Iranians.

BARRY FANTONI



"Perhaps he should apply for Peter Parker's job"

Good in part

The most singular show in the Edinburgh Fringe is a one-man performance by the Icelandic actor Vidar Egg. Egg insists that he only plays before an audience of one. He "seeks to explore the actor-audience relationship" and can give his full attention to only one auditor at a time. All his performances have been sell-outs and the price of tickets, yesterday £9, increases by £1 a day. My PHSy has not seen the show, because no review tickets are available. I do not think this has anything to do with the fact that the Circuit 83, a fairground beneath the Usher Hall, one of Egg's neighbours is a company called Omelette.

● Dick Turpin has just been appointed assistant manager of the National Westminster Bank's Ladbury branch. His extra-curricular activities, according to a notice sent to customers, stop at cricket, squash, golf, fishing and motor maintenance.

Gullstones

Happily for the PHSausage joke contest, only fragments remain of *The Sausage*, a comedy written by the Greek dramatist Epicharmus about 500 BC. Otherwise age would not have deterred readers from sending me the whole text. I have doubts about the freshness of most of the offerings as it is. A. A. Smiles, for example, admits that his "breadcrumbs in battle-dress" dates back to *ITMA*, 1942. I award a sausage clock prize to Ian Wilkes for his, which is bad enough to be original. A German butcher's motto was to leave no tern unstoned, because he specialized in seabird sausages. Every morning he went to the beach to throw stones at the birds, and whenever he hit one would shout: "There's another tern for the Würst!"

An Oxfordshire underwear manufacturer claims that Britain is going bust in a big way. Inflation, Andrew Bryant alleges, has borne the British average bra size up from 34b to 36b, though West German women still "have the biggest bosoms in Europe with an average bust size of 38 inches". Hoping to flesh this out with a handful of statistics, I rang Marks & Spencer and got that the biggest bra size they stock is 34b, a prima young lady insisted, is 34b and reports to the contrary are greatly exaggerated.

PHS

Who will succeed the King?

Jerusalem
When Menachem Begin confessed that he had heard nothing about the Beirut massacre last September until tuning in to the BBC 48 hours after it began, it should have been clear that something was seriously at fault either with his will or ability to govern.

But in the ensuing months, despite his growing mood of introverted despondency following the tragic death of his wife, the message somehow failed to sink into Israel's national psyche. As a result, this week's undignified and agonizing drawn-out resignation has come as a profound political shock.

As the first news began to travel from table to table in the cafes of Jerusalem's main shopping mall, the customers looked stunned with disbelief. "We must tell him not to go. He is our father. We cannot live without him," shouted one man. Later, hundreds of distraught people gathered outside his official residence chanting "Begin, King of Israel". Although accepting that their efforts would be in vain, they seemed unable to think how else to react.

The main cause of the intensity of the personal reaction - just as strong among those delighted by the departure of Begin's most hawkish fashion - is the effortless fashion in which Mr Begin has totally dominated the political stage since coming to power in 1977.

Even during his recent decline, he has stood head and shoulders not only above those in his party, but also above any politician whom the main Labour opposition has been able to put up - especially its leader, the distinctly uncharismatic Shimon Peres. Shown in the latest opinion poll to be supported as Labour's candidate for prime minister by a derisive 6 per cent of the population.



Shamir: best chance of broad backing
Sharon: his support could be vital
Levy: opposition to his welfare largesse

It is precisely because of Mr Begin's domination of the ruling Likud coalition and his reluctance to designate an heir apparent to lead his own right-wing Herut party that his sudden departure will pose such problems for the government.

As the *Jerusalem Post* put it bluntly, "It will be the test of whether the Likud does have a life after Menachem Begin, or whether it is simply a function of his political will".

According to a poll earlier this month, Mr Begin was preferred as Likud prime minister by 42.1 per cent of the public compared with only 8.7 per cent for the runner-up, the former Defence Minister, Ezer Weizman, who has been in self-imposed political exile at his villa in Caesarea since leaving the Cabinet in 1980. Behind him was Moshe Arens, the new Defence Minister and articulate former ambassador to Washington, with 4.8 per cent, and then David Levy, the able, Sephardi Deputy Prime Minister, who scored 3.1 per cent.

Yitzhak Shamir, now tipped as Mr Begin's likely successor, was even lower down. At the age of 67,

Mr Shamir was being described by his backers as the stop-gap candidate most able to secure broad support in party forums. A former member of the Mossad secret service and a founder of the Stern Gang, the most ruthless pre-state Jewish terrorist group, he was once detained by the British. Since replacing Moshe Dayan as Foreign Minister he has performed solidly but without noticeable impact.

The timing of Mr Begin's departure has ruled out both Mr Arens (regarded as President Reagan's preferred candidate) and Mr Weizman as immediate hopefuls because neither is a member of the Knesset.

The present dire state of the economy appears to have destroyed the leadership chances of Yoram Aridor, the once influential Finance Minister, while the only other possible contender, Ariel Sharon, is still recovering from the near lethal

political blow dealt by the inquiry commission into the Beirut massacre. This has left him relegated to the sidelines as Minister without Portfolio, but his street following could make him an important kingmaker.

This would leave Mr Shamir and Mr Levy - at the age of 43, the darling of the underprivileged Sephardi community and the father of 11 children - to fight it out. Although Mr Levy has far greater grassroots support, it was argued yesterday that he could face vigorous opposition from the Liberal Party, the second largest group in the Likud because of his support for free-spending social and welfare policies. Apart from sharing a similar hawkish approach to future Israeli control of the occupied West Bank, Mr Shamir and Mr Levy both held early jobs as building labourers and both are reported to have gone to the same language tutor to brush up their English.

The succession battle is expected to be tough and quite unlike the almost gentlemanly struggle behind closed doors while Mr Begin was still in power. On the troubled economic front, where inflation is now running at 130 per cent, Mr Begin's eventual successor will face a supreme test of his political skills, as he will be resolving the future of the costly involvement in Lebanon. Although the future is uncertain, on the key question of Israel's dominance over the 2,500 square miles of the occupied West Bank, it is clear that Mr Begin was close to securing the grandiose wish which he declared two years ago when asked how he would like to be remembered by history. "As the man who set the borders of Eretz Israel (the Biblical land of Israel) for all eternity," he replied.

Christopher Walker

If the sun has to set, don't stand in the way

Our Island Story - a History of Britain for Boys and Girls by our *Empire Story* are nice, big fat books, well written, in good print and full of humane patriotism. Though first published at the turn of the century, they are still used to introduce children to history, certainly in my family.

The author, H. E. Marshall, refers to Britain in a preface as "the little island in the West". Such ironic understatement relies on centuries of excess and security for its effect. The last thing we have ever been is a little island. True, today some would like to cut us down to size, and edge us eastwards (into the Baltic?), sans Europe, sans defence, sans Nato, sans pretty well everything. The electorate has given its verdict on the isolationist option. But insular thinking takes many forms and is not confined to the left.

The last edition of *Our Island Story* finishes after the Second World War, before decolonization. Mercifully, the penitential breast-bending is at last subsiding.

But it is too soon for serenity, both historically and because we still have three major problems - three islands, as it happens - to deal with: the Falklands; Hongkong; and (stretching the point to a peninsula), Gibraltar.

Having disposed of continents, it would be a pity to stumble over these smaller entities and to finish the course bruised, dusty and disheartened. It is vital to take a non-insular view of the last islands of empire. And that means applying abroad the same burning sense of priorities as we are, at last, at home.

Not for the first time, wet/dry manichaeism distorts the debate. If it is dry (and in my view right) to insist with relentless realism on rectifying our economic shortcomings, can it be wet to suggest that we should keep a stern eye on what really matters overseas? The Atlantic Alliance, the construction of Europe, the Commonwealth, and the urgent exigencies of East/West diplomacy are neither new nor exclusive concerns. But like Victorian values, they have a perennial force of compulsion and attraction. By comparison, the Falklands, Hongkong and even Gibraltar seem a little peripheral in relation to priorities and resources (especially if Spain enters the Nato military structure). To concentrate on them

to the exclusion of the broader picture is to risk analogy with the peevish provincialism which is the hallmark of the left.

Clearly, we shall never get far on the big issues if we lack principle or purpose on the small. But symbols must not outgrow substance. Islands are very symbolic, but are often appended to large countries or continents. "Every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main," is the oft-quoted corollary of "No man is an island".

Hongkong symbolizes much that is best in the British colonial record (once we draw a veil over how we came by it). Theoretically, part of it is ours in perpetuity, though again the substance intrudes, China being a fairly substantial sort of place. We have clear responsibilities towards Hongkong. I lived there for two years and admire the people as much as anyone. But it would be dangerously Quixotic to inflate our obligations beyond our ultimate ability to guarantee in practice the welfare of its inhabitants.

Given realism and a sense of proportion, there is no reason why we should not reach a settlement combining British interests, rights and duties with Chinese intentions.

Hongkong will eat deeply into our diplomatic reserves. The Falklands will swallow another big slice, not to mention the troops and the cash. What more can usefully be said at this stage? It is always worth recalling that it was Mrs Thatcher herself who had the courage to put leave-back to the House of Commons in 1980. It was right to do so; it was right to fight; and it is right to sit tight now - which does not preclude some sober reflection on the long-term costs and on possible solutions. Meanwhile, beyond the Falklands, looms a whole continent with all its agonies and opportunities.

Gibraltar, too, is appended to a country of consequence. There is no need to rehearse our obligations to the people of the colony. What does need emphasis are our future relations with Madrid during this sensitive phase of its absorption into the western democratic camp. One way to avoid a choice between our responsibilities towards Gibraltar and a confrontation with renaissance Spain is not to fix our sights unrealistically high in matters concerning the Rock.



The style of governments is indivisible. Our revolution of common sense at home must be applied overseas. The parallels are remorseless. Abroad, sound money means a sound Europe, a sound Alliance and stable East-West relations.

To sustain friendships and to wear down animosities overseas, you need persistence and a sense of priorities - just as you do to build up business confidence or erode inflation. And internationally, as at home, sacrifices and distasteful compromises are sometimes unavoidable in pursuit of the greater good.

Our three "island" problems are perplexing and expensive, but

soluble - unless we approach them in a spirit of insularity. If we do, we could be sucked into a centrifugal preoccupation with the periphery, with a proportionate decline in our image and influence in the wider world. Atlanta, fleet of foot, was waylaid by just three apples. So we face something of a challenge. But we have the leadership and the professionalism to ensure that this chapter of *Our Island Story* finishes with neither a bang nor whimper, but with a diplomatic grace note.

George Walden

The author is Conservative MP for Buckingham and a former private secretary to Lord Carrington.

Front-line Europe, not just Brixton

Ten young Turks robbing old people in Berlin called it "doing a granny". Most of them played tuat and needed money for Coca-Cola, hamburgers, doner kebab and pinball machines.

In Lyon, France, there was an outbreak of crime among young immigrants who took part in "rodeos" in stolen cars. In Sweden, foreigners who make up 5 per cent of the population represent more than 16 per cent of people suspected by the police of committing a crime.

Associating crime with immigrants or their children is innocent not only to Brixton but to much of Western Europe. And the pressures on police dealing with ethnic minorities in run-down inner cities are remarkably similar everywhere.

That is why police chiefs, criminologists and government officials from Western European countries got together yesterday for the first time at a colloquium at Wolfson College, Cambridge, organized in cooperation with the Cranfield Institute of Technology in Bedfordshire. They are searching for new ideas with which to tackle the effects of the post-war immigration on which the prosperity of Western Europe has been built.

Amsterdam, says: "It is our firm conviction that in the past five years in cities like Copenhagen, London, Paris and Amsterdam, some 40-odd disturbances have been prevented by local policemen's private initiatives."

In police eyes, the danger possibilities range upwards on a seismic scale from petty crime and violence to parts of European cities going up in flames.

From Amsterdam, gangs of South Americans migrate seasonally, following tourists to the sun. Young male prostitutes and robbers came north originally from the Mediterranean in search of work. They lost their jobs or never had any. Twenty-five per cent of all drug addicts in Amsterdam are of Surinamese origin.

Drugs are an easy source of income for some people of immigrant origin, who bring to Europe echoes of conflict back home. Joachim Jager, of the Police Academy near Hiltrup, West Germany, says that at present charges are pending against 300 Kurds for drug smuggling and trafficking, some of the money being used to finance the Kurds' fight for independence.

Neo-Nazi groups stir up hatred and football hooligans, as in Britain, take out their aggression on ethnic minorities.

André Craen, chief of police in the Belgian city of Genk, speaks of the pressures on ethnic minorities living in an "alien" society and compares present tensions with those in Germany in the 1930s.

What should the police do? Sometimes turn a blind eye during a football match between Ajax and FC Utrecht, using Utrecht fans displayed a banner with a racist text. The police came in for criticism when they did not interfere. But so did the racist youths. A group of Utrecht fans were so affected that they made public apologies.

The message from papers at the conference confirms that the causes of crime are social and economic and that ethnic minorities suffer from the bad effects of both. No single agency, including the police, working by itself, can eradicate it.

The effort in Britain to win community support is echoed in other European countries where police work with other agencies in tackling social ills and anticipating trouble. In Genk, social workers are employed to work with police. In France, an inter-agency campaign to help young people to find jobs, provide them with adventure courses and help them to learn a trade, is thought to have had an effect.

No-one should be surprised that police throughout Europe are wor-

ried about race problems; and many who have seen them at first hand will know that the methods they use are not necessarily the same as those they talk about. Nevertheless, whatever they do in the streets, the powerful impression left by the papers is that social causes of crime require social action.

Professor John Brown, of Cranfield, says: "The relationship is much more between crime and multiple disadvantage than the colour of the skin. We ought to be looking at race in the context of disadvantage rather than disadvantage in the context of race."

No one makes that point more clearly than Colin Guest, an assistant governor in the prison service doing research at Cranfield. He says in a paper: "Although the available official population statistics reveal that in London and the South-East young black males outnumber young black males in the region of two to one, a survey of almost 5,000 young offenders in custody in London and the South-East between 1981 and 1983 showed that within penal establishments, young Asians were outnumbered by young blacks by a ratio of 22 to one."

Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Beware Japanese bearing jobs

In Japan, so legend has it, age prevails. We in the West are inclined to think that a business with an octogenarian chairman needs a boardroom revolution. In Japan, so we are told, the weight attached to a chairman's whims grows with the passing of his eightieth birthday.

So the news from Nissan comes as a considerable shock. Ever since the scheme for building Nissan cars in Britain was first mooted all those years ago, I have put my faith in its venerable chairman, Katsuji Kawamura, who by all accounts was dead opposed. So was I, and I have not changed my mind. But now we read that Mr Kawamura has changed his mind, it looks as though Nissan is on its way at last.

Why, then, look a gift-horse in the mouth? Five thousand jobs, probably in an unemployment blackspot, and tens of thousands in components factories and the like; access to Japanese technology, management skills and harmonious industrial relations: what could be wrong with that? Quite simply that it is not a gift-horse at all. We buy it, and it is going to be a poor bargain.

We do not know the exact price tag. But after allowing for automatic regional development grants, with a handsome dollop of "selective assistance" from the Department of Industry on top, we are unlikely to see much change out of £150m.

In return, as we were again assured in March, Nissan's "objective would be to produce at 80 per cent local content, after a build-up from 60 per cent." Well, we shall see. There have been some circumstantial sounding reports of Nissan's worries about the quality of UK components. Suppose they arrive, set up shop and in due course reveal that, alas, they cannot find precisely what they need, and will have to continue importing components from Japan? Does the Department of Industry demand our money back and close the factory? As Eliza Doolittle remarked, "Not bloody likely."

Then there is the matter of where Nissan UK products will be sold. I suggested once that the French, and probably the Italians, would turn British-assembled Nissans back at the ports, only to be told that that would be against EEC rules. Here again, we shall see. But in the light of France's latest move against the BL/Honda Accord, it would be a brave man who put his faith in the Rome Treaty to hold the door open

to Nissan. The French have long regarded us as Japan's Trojan horse in Europe, and Nissan is the sort of development they would not accept.

Last, but by no means least, there is the British domestic car industry. We have pumped more than £1,000m into BL and hundreds of millions more into Rover/Chrysler/Talbot - where the Department of Industry is just now trying to stop Peugeot doing anything nasty at Ryton. On top of that we have handed over many tens of millions to persuade Ford to go - no thought to its subsequent regret - to Halewood, and more recently to Bridgend.

Subsidizing rival concerns with taxpayers' money has always struck me as a game. But at least BL is as British as can come, while Ford and Chrysler/Talbot have done a lot of real manufacturing here. Biting Nissan to set up a competing plant sounds daft.

This is not an argument against overseas investment or in favour of protection. France's much publicized wheeze of channelling all Japanese videos through Postle is a classic case of cutting off the nose to spite the face. Since the French do not make videos, the only possible beneficiaries are the Germans and the Dutch, and the only possible sufferers the French consumers, who have to pay more.

If Nissan wished to set up shop here at its own expense, good luck to it. Paying Nissan to do so is a different matter altogether. When Patrick Jenkin told the Japanese a few months ago that if they refused to accept a container-load of sovereigns for a UK factory then we would not let them sell their cars to us at all, they must have wondered if they had heard right.

Perhaps if money had not been. Perhaps the excellent Mr Kawamura will change his mind again. Perhaps the outbreak by Mr Ichiro Shioji of the Nissan trade union will scare the board. If so we shall be deeply in their debt, although I don't suppose it will be seen that way. The new jobs are what it's all about; and it is part of the ethos of the Department of Industry - not to mention the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland offices - that new jobs in place of those already in existence are a snip. After all, it is not their money they are bargaining with.

The author was Economic Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

James Curran

Bosses who keep a little list

For many years Roy Medvedev, one of Russia's leading historians, has been unable to get a teaching job. He has joined the shadowy group of non-persons in the Soviet Union who cannot get employment in their chosen field because they write and say things deemed to be subversive.

His plight is little different from that of a growing number of non-persons in Britain blacklisted because of their political views. Perhaps the best known is Derek Robinson, a kindly and impressive working-class intellectual who for many years was the senior convener at BL's Longbridge plant. The crime for which he was dismissed - so without any written or verbal warning - was the joint authorship of a thoughtful pamphlet, *The Edwardes Plan and Your Job*, that advocated an expansionist strategy for the company he worked for. It contained, however, a brief passage which management held to be unacceptable. "In other industries like UCS (Upper Clyde Shipbuilders), work-ins and occupations have been necessary to prevent closures. If necessary, we shall have to do the same."

As a free-born Englishman, Robinson had every right to express a point of view different from that of management, including citing the example of what the Upper Clyde shipworkers had done to defend their jobs. Yet he has never worked again in the car industry. As a known communist militant, he never will.

But the way that non-persons are created in Britain is generally less conspicuous. In the past 10 years many companies have adopted increasingly formalized procedures for vetting job applicants in a way that systematically screens out well-known militants.

The Institute of Directors is an enthusiastic advocate of this form of ideological policing. "Our advice," Wendy Hinton, the institute's press officer, told me, "is to step up vetting procedures and look out for trouble-makers who apply for jobs. They have to be stopped."

The way this has been done varies between different companies (with some still rightly refusing to operate a system of political screening). But documents shown to me suggest that the misuse of references to demand and obtain information about workers' political leanings and union commitments has become depressingly widespread in the past decade, even in nationalized industries. For example, Roy Roebuck, works manager of a BSC subsidiary at Greenwich, asked the personnel manager at BSC's Ebbw Vale works: "I would also be interested to learn whether the applicant mentioned below has a background of political involvement."

In some companies this ideological vetting takes the form of blackballing union negotiators who are not compliant. "Disruptive attitudes when acting as shop steward... would you re-employ? No", reads one chilling assessment from the Holiday group.

The author is editor of *New Socialist*.

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CAN LEBANON EXIST?

There is a sort of parallel between the internal situation of the Israeli government and the problem it faces in Lebanon. Mr Begin has made up his mind to withdraw from the political arena, and his government has made up its mind to withdraw from the Chouf. Both decisions reflect a mixture of sheer weariness and the knowledge that to stay on involves considerable risks, with little to be positively achieved. Yet both have caused consternation among friends and allies, because of the vacuum they threaten to leave. The implementation of both was postponed yesterday "for a few days" in response to pressure from these friends and allies. Yet in neither case is it at all obvious that the problems will be solved any more easily during the period of postponement than they would be once the decisions have been taken.

The two crises are not of the same order, however. Israel's internal crisis is a "normal" crisis, of the sort that might attend a change of leadership in any country. One man has dominated the political scene for six years. Another will somehow be found, or, at most, the opposition may come to power. Decisions will be taken, if not always the right ones, and in any event the state will carry on.

No such luxury for Lebanon, whose very existence is increasingly in question - a question of which what Israel does or does not do in the Chouf is only one small part. And the existence or non-existence of the Lebanese state, though it most immediately concerns the Lebanese themselves, has become a matter of considerable concern to many others. Even we in Britain are involved in it, as the shots fired at our soldiers in Beirut yesterday painfully remind us. This time they escaped unhurt, luckier than their French and American colleagues. But it would be wrong to assume that their lives are not in danger. The way things are going in Lebanon now, there will be a next time, and a time after that.

Not that anyone supposed, when the decision was taken to contribute ninety-seven Dragoon Guards to the multinational force in Lebanon, that they were not going to be in any danger. If the moment comes when the multinational force is in no danger, that may well be the moment when it can and should be brought home.

Short of that, what should determine the maintenance or removal of the multinational force is not the degree of danger it is in but whether it is achieving the objects for which it was sent there. These objects were essentially two: to assist in the restoration of the authority of the Lebanese state throughout Lebanese territory, and to ensure the safety of civilians while that was being done.

The hope then was that successive infringements of Lebanese sovereignty by foreign forces (Palestinian, Syrian, Israeli - each of them initially welcomed as allies by one or more Lebanese parties) had at last brought about both a Lebanese national consensus and the opportunity to put it into effect. There have been three nation-builders of Lebanon, as one European observer put it, "and their names are Arafat, Assad and Sharon."

The bulk of the Palestinian forces had gone. The Lebanese Christians were as anxious to see their Israeli "liberators" go home as were the Lebanese Muslims to be rid of their Syrian "protectors", and Syria and Israel were both thought to be willing to go provided the other went too. Even Bashir Gemayel, formerly an extreme partisan leader, had been close, by the time of his death, to acceptance as a focus of national unity. His brother Amin, always the moderate within the Phalangist leadership, seemed even better equipped for that role. With help from his Western friends, it seemed, he had a good chance of success.

Alas, those hopes seem vain now. They have been thwarted in part by Syria's refusal to withdraw but also, crucially, by the fact that there are still significant Lebanese forces willing to throw in their lot with Syria rather than with the Lebanese state in its present form. Those forces do not hail only from the part of the country occupied by Syria, where they would have little choice, but from the Israeli-occupied south and from the crumbling shantytowns of southern Beirut where, unfortunately, the imposition of Lebanese government authority has not brought respect for the institutions behind it. Rather the reverse.

Perhaps precisely because he lacked his brother's record as a tough leader of the Christian side in the civil war, President Amin Gemayel has not confronted the sectarian elements in his own camp with the firmness that was necessary if his authority was to be accepted among Druzes and Muslims - particularly Shi'ite Muslims, Lebanon's largest and most underprivileged community - as well. His state and his army have behaved, as our Middle East correspondent recorded in his article yesterday, too much like a Phalangist state, and army, not enough like institutions belonging to all the Lebanese.

Attempts to remedy this are still going on, and the powers contributing to the multinational force should not incur responsibility for their failure by withdrawing abruptly or prematurely. But if it proves that there is in fact no Lebanese national consensus, the premise on which the multinational force is based will become invalid.

THE POLYTECHNICS' OPEN DOOR

The proportion of 18-year-olds with Advanced Level passes who then proceed further up the educational ladder to attend university or college has recently picked up. Indeed at the current 88 per cent, the "qualified participation rate" is touching the record levels of the 1960s. Then, of course, higher education was fashionable; our national pride was bound up in the expansion of academic opportunity; public regard for both red bricks and polytechnics was high.

Glamour has now faded. There is doubt whether a high participation rate should be a cause for celebration or concern. Celebration should surely be muted: higher education beckons more and more 18-year-old school leavers when the alternative is of uncertain employment or even joblessness. For Mrs Thatcher's Government concern has been predominant, with both treasury and education ministers preoccupied (as well they might be) by a bulge of adolescent numbers working through the sixth forms and colleges at a time of supposed expenditure restraint.

The Government, having laid aside many issues of academic reform left over from that hurried 1960s expansion, has sought to cut higher education spending without necessarily incurring the odium of turning away qualified students. The Department of Education has been attempting to reduce the unit cost of educating students in all the institutions but, finding the downward drift of cost more difficult to attain in the universities, has apparently contemplated a marked rise in the

number of students being enrolled (hence a cheaper unit cost) in advanced education outside them. "Apparently" is a necessary qualification. In the tortuous world of polytechnic finance - polytechnics being still, despite their size and academic sophistication, creatures of councils - central government rarely directly disposes. Intended or not there has been a striking reduction in the past three years from £2,670 to £1,960 in the cost of educating a student on those polytechnic courses which do not involve extensive laboratory work. The same figure for the universities has barely dropped.

This policy has had much to commend it. Read any report of the Chief Inspector of Audit up till 1981 and it is difficult to resist the conclusion that many polytechnics had costs inflated by under-used buildings and under-occupied staffs. Expanding student numbers in the polytechnics has, in theory, often cost only the marginal amount of the student government grants for tuition and accommodation, from which strict public accounting ought to deduct the total of unemployment or social security payments saved.

But in practice the marginal cost may also have involved a reduction in academic quality. The University Grants Committee has insisted that student intake must be reduced in line with spending cuts in order to protect teaching and - the university function often forgotten by civil servants and ministers - research. Has the time now come when polytechnic directors ought also to curb their appetite for student numbers?

The answer supplied yesterday by the officers of the National

Advisory Body for local authority higher education was yes - that the system of polytechnics and colleges must grapple with the qualitative issues posed by the Government's expenditure plans and reduce student intake accordingly. The body (one of the more unwieldy quangos created in Mrs Thatcher's time) is now to discuss a set of proposals for financing courses and student enrolment, the aim of which is to preserve the quality of the academic and vocational courses by pruning here and closing there. As the UGC discovered in 1981, this strategy causes much pain to the institutions affected; but far better surgery than progressive deterioration.

The National Advisory Body is presenting the Government with the fruits of its overall education spending policy. It is saying - without discussion of the merits of looting education for savings - that contraction can be managed. But now there has also to be faced a politically distasteful result: slamming the college door in the face of qualified applicants who, turned away, may face only unemployment.

So far the elasticity provided by the slack management of the polytechnics and colleges in the 1970s has eased the consequences of the spending policy for the would-be students. The Government is now being told that from 1984-85 that let-out must end. The choices are: more students and a reduction in quality or a stabilized student enrolment (cutting the participation rate) while keeping standards up. Being a polite quango a third option is not mentioned. That is to review the policy for higher education in its entirety.

MR MEACHER'S NUCLEAR BOMBSHELL

Mr Michael Meacher, who is regarded as doing duty for Mr Tony Benn in this round of Labour Party elections, has elaborated his subversive thoughts about the democratic centralism which the far left of the party uses as its model. He was talking about security policy and unilateral nuclear disarmament. He did not believe Labour could win an election unless it had majority support for its defence policy, so crucial is the issue of security. But "even if it did win, but without clear evidence of majority public support for unilateral renunciation of Polaris, I believe that an explicit test of public opinion, if necessary by a referendum, should be carried out before an absolutely fundamental decision of this kind was implemented". He was not, he hastened to add, knocking conference decisions. He was not in any way changing or seeking to modify or reverse conference policy, which in this matter he strongly

supported and would continue to do so with conviction. "All I am doing is seeking moral authority to implement it." All he is doing is shooting holes in democratic centralism.

The model up to now has been perfectly simple. The party conference, as the democratically convened and sovereign organ of the party, decides policy. The policy is written into the manifesto. The party candidates, elected to power by the people, receive a mandate to implement the policies in the manifesto. They are authorized by the voters to do so, and are under a duty to the party conference to do so.

Mr Meacher sabotages the edifice twice. First he says there is no simple transformation of manifesto into mandate. If it appears (to whom? Dr Gallup?) that a fundamentally important section of the manifesto does not, taken in isolation, have majority support, a further test

of its acceptability is called for before it should be proceeded with. Second he says that a policy decision of conference is not in all cases moral authority enough for a Labour government to proceed to implement it. It needs further processing. That is to claim even more independence from the conference than orthodox parliamentarians of the Labour party are wont to claim. They claim latitude on the timing and order of priority of conference decisions that achieve the rank of party policy. Mr Meacher seeks moral authority from some other quarter before putting them on the agenda of government at all.

Those who prefer the parliamentary to the party model of political legitimacy will welcome Mr Meacher's own goal - though they may look askance at the use of the referendum to decide an issue of defence policy. But what of those who counted him a true party man of the left? Back to the dream ticket?

Political implications of going private

From Dr Craig R. Pickering
Sir, Your leading articles of August 17 and 22, and other recent articles in your newspaper, air the major economic implications of privatisation. But they do not bring out as fully as they might the political implications of the policy. The history of nationalised industry is a story which is worth the attention of those who are concerned with the consequences of such an approach.

Such political questions as our right to use the media of communication as we think fit and the state's freedom to tax us are inherent in the fact that certain industries are nationalised or run by the Government itself. By privatising them, the Government may shift the balance of influence away from itself towards the citizens. To that extent, privatisation is a political as well as an economic and financial act.

Such political considerations need to be taken into account, particularly when looking at proposals for a regulated rather than a nationalised industry. The citizen may think that he or she will enjoy no increase in influence or power over the provision of goods and services from such an industry, or anything else it affects. One set of masters will simply have been exchanged for another.

The probability that the new set will have different views, to an extent, on how the industry should operate, from the old is not enough, in political terms, to justify reorganising the industry. Democratic theorists of various persuasions might propose new institutional constraints on the industries and the regulatory bodies. The latter might, for example, be elected, rather than, as politicians usually propose, nominated.

Such constraints might hamper the commercial operations of the industry in question. Such pessimism seems premature, however, especially when set against the importance of such industries in our political and economic life.

Much work remains to be done before answers to the questions I

Inferno in a green and pleasant land

From Mr James Mitchell
Sir, The landscape stretching northwards up the Avon valley to Marlborough, westwards over Stonehenge and southwards again to Salisbury from Beacon Hill above Amesbury can make one of England's most enchanting summer views.

Returning home from holiday along the A303 last Friday afternoon that magic was dispelled by a vision of desolation. Lowering behind a thunderbank of cloud a blood-red sun filtered down over Stonehenge as one imagines a spent nuclear fireball in the aftermath of a holocaust. Under the clouds field after field in the landscape was blackened or was still blazing and belching black smoke all across the bowl of this most Arcadian of English valleys. Hardly a hedge or a tree, it seemed, could have survived the wrath of the flames in that inferno without singing, scorching or burning - and many haven't.

And the wildlife. Not a bird was singing, not a butterfly was about when I reached home through the smog. How many creatures had died, I wonder, in the fields that day?

No fisherman could fish on the river on Friday evening. The walkers in the valley could not walk with any pleasure. Visitors to England's most famous monument wasted their journeys.

Today the fires started again. Everyone admires our farmers for having achieved so much in improving this country's agricultural productivity since the war. But, equally, no industry would be allowed to get away with the danger, filth and heartbreak which the farmers now expect by right to be allowed to inflict on this lovely English countryside every year through strawburning.

None are the days when a bonfire in the country was a joy and a rickfire a sensation. Large-scale strawburning is a phenomenon of the new economic prairie farming, but there have to be reasonable restraints even on the most sensible of agricultural reforms.

Many local people here, I believe, feel that the farmers, after refusing repeated requests to exercise adequate controls on strawburning, will have now to be respectfully obliged by law to stop the pollution

Bracken spraying

From Mr J. E. E. Wells
Sir, May I make one or two comments on Lady Sayer's rather emotively worded letter of August 25, with references to "toxic spraying", calling to mind the defoliation programme in Vietnam, and to the public being "chased off" Haynes Down.

Firstly, the land she writes about is not open common but is privately owned and wholly enclosed by stone walls though it is subject to common grazing rights and it is traversed by a road and a bridleway, with gates at each end.

Principally, though, does Lady Sayer realise that spreading bracken is the main enemy of heather, the loss of which the amenity societies are so rightly concerned about, together with bilberries and other interesting species? Bracken spraying will not destroy these because they cannot co-exist with bracken.

Subsequent writing to improve the heritage and inhibit the recurrence of bracken, I agree, will not encourage heather, which we should all like to see more of because of its value as winter grazing, but it is better to have moorland grasses than high, tick-infested bracken, both for farmers and for walkers and picnickers.

The spray material has been drunk with no ill effects and I am told that a lid has been kept in the solution that is usually applied. Finally, though, while public access is tolerated all over Dartmoor it is taking this de facto right too far to seek to use it to curtail normal farming operations on enclosed land.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. E. WELLS,
Creebar, Gidleigh,
Chagford, Devon.
August 26.

Service broadcasts

Group Captain G. H. Pirie (ret'd)
Sir, The members of the Broadcasting Division of the Services Sound and Vision Corporation (the BFBS) and the servicemen they entertain will be hard put to recognise the present state of the BFBS from the letter of their former director, Mr Ian Woolf, published in your issue of August 11.

Mr Blaker, the former Minister (Armed Forces) announced to the House of Commons on March 26 last year that the SSVC, formed by the merger of the BFBS and the Services Cinema Corporation, would continue to provide, at no extra cost, the high standard of service then provided.

The SSVC has been in existence for just over a year. It has been a period of energetic and encouraging activity and I am confident that the Government's expectations will be fulfilled. Of the 66 established staff of the BFBS with more than two years to serve before normal retirement, at the time of the

merger, all except five have transferred to the SSVC. I have seen for myself at the overseas stations that we continue to provide a service greatly valued by our servicemen and their commanders. The relationships between the broadcasters, the MOD and the commands through the chain of the council, of which the Adjutant General is president, the board of management and advisory committees, supported by professional auditors, are working very satisfactorily.

As chairman of the SSVC I was proud to become associated with the broadcasters. The morale of the staff at the broadcasting stations is uniformly high; they know that they are doing a very worthwhile job within a new and forward looking organisation.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON PIRIE, Chairman,
The Services Sound and Vision Corporation,
Chalfont Grove,
Gerrards Cross,
Buckinghamshire.

Body and mind

From Dr Sally Jobling
Sir, Having followed with interest your recent articles and correspondence on "alternative medicine", may I suggest one reason for its growing popularity is that it supplies a commodity seldom available on the NHS: consultation time.

NHS GPs and consultants are normally limited to five to 10 minutes per patient, whereas in the private sector consultations last for up to one hour. It is not surprising that patients appreciate this extra time devoted to their problems.

I feel that whilst NHS doctors are handicapped by the present system, the drift away from the NHS and towards any alternative will continue.

Enterprises has been stifled by ludicrous rate levels: one business there is paying only fractionally less in rates than a prime site at Oxford Circus would cost it and the council wonders why unemployment is over 20 per cent. The massive rates have driven out many firms, projects, rate grants, industrial grants, and almost every conceivable subsidy have been poured into it. The results cannot be presented as anything other than a complete and unambiguous condemnation of socialist administration and Mr Kaufman's policy of flinging other people's money at other people's problems.

of the countryside - just as, in the end, industrialists had to be obliged by law to desist from poisoning our cities.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES MITCHELL,
Tassel,
Wilsford-cum-Lake,
Salisbury,
August 29.

Principally, though, does Lady Sayer realise that spreading bracken is the main enemy of heather, the loss of which the amenity societies are so rightly concerned about, together with bilberries and other interesting species? Bracken spraying will not destroy these because they cannot co-exist with bracken.

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Yours faithfully,
J. E. E. WELLS,
Creebar, Gidleigh,
Chagford, Devon.
August 26.

A view of Hackney

From Mr Peter Craft
Sir, Mr Kaufman (feature, August 22) was unwise to select Hackney as the test for his sermon on the evils of government policy. Hackney, in all its squalor, at present the poorest local government area in Britain, is a monument to socialism and nothing else.

With one short break, it has had Labour administrations for fifty years. Countless relief, projects, rate grants, industrial grants, and almost every conceivable subsidy have been poured into it. The results cannot be presented as anything other than a complete and unambiguous condemnation of socialist administration and Mr Kaufman's policy of flinging other people's money at other people's problems.

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Yours faithfully,
PETER CROFT,
27 Kerrison Road, W5.

Breakfast fare

From Mr N. A. Oppenheim
Sir, Your back page "Anniversaries" section today (August 23) gratuitously informs me that Sir William Wallace, a Scottish national leader was hanged, beheaded, disembowelled and quartered in 1305. Apart from the unnecessary overkill involved, this information spoiled my breakfast.

Just stick to the dates, please. Yours faithfully,
N. A. OPPENHEIM,
61 Park Road, Chiswick, W4.
August 23.

Balance of terror

From Mr Neil Kinnock, MP for Isghyn (Labour)
Sir, During TV-am's breakfast programme on August 28 Mr David Frost asked me whether I agreed with the reported view of Mr Arthur Scargill that President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher were "the most dangerous duo" who "jointly present a threat to world peace".

In reply, as the TV-am transcript and recording of that interview show, I said: "It is a matter of open regard that I would fundamentally disagree with that view of the balance of terror in the world" and then went on to greater length to say that the arms race between the power blocs has a momentum of its own and constitutes a "miserable equity of threat."

Belton House plea

From Mr Timothy Kimber
Sir, I wonder whether Lord Brownlow is as confused by his cousin, Mr Hoos's curiously channelled advice (August 18) as I am.

Mr Hoos appears to be urging Lord Brownlow to follow both of the two options open to him. On the one hand he is acknowledging the right to preserve an inheritance for the family. On the other he is pleading that Belton be given to the National Trust. Presumably the obstacle to Lord Brownlow's receipt of "the roars of applause from the family vault" is that the two options are mutually exclusive.

Belton is indeed a wonderful part of Britain's heritage and its future is of great importance. However the problems of its present owner, possibly exacerbated by the stewardship of past generations, are surely part of a wider issue.

An increasing part of the nation's heritage is being dislodged from private hands by the present capital tax regime. On top of this there is the problem of ever escalating current expenditure which in many cases far exceeds a very modest income. What, if any, persons or institutions do the Government imagine will now take on the burden of the maintenance of such properties?

Without considering the philosophical case for such tax arrangements, the fact is that those institutions, led by the National Trust, which are attempting the task are already unable to cope. They have increasing numbers of insufficiently endowed historic properties being offered to them by others facing Lord Brownlow's dilemma.

When one considers Mr Hoos's confused and contradictory letter one can perhaps understand Lord Brownlow's reluctance to confide in him. What is less understandable is Mr Hoos's preference for public rather than private communications.

The facts of the matter are that, unaided by Mr Hoos, Lord Brownlow has put together a set of conditions of sale for Belton which has been widely described as being exceptionally imaginative and public-spirited.

Yours faithfully
TIMOTHY KIMBER,
Mr Carruthers,
Lancashire,
August 21.

TV and religion

From Mrs Ann Marsh
Sir, Whilst I agree with Canon Martin (August 22) that the TV religious programmes need to cater for the housebound and elderly, I think they have a huge contribution to make in the widening and deepening of the average church-goer's faith. We need to hear of other people's visions and difficulties if our understanding of the worldwide church is to grow.

TV also gives the Church an opportunity to educate Christian thinking by making available the wisdom and spirituality of some of its finest teachers, on our basic tenets of faith and their relevance to life today.

I know of many Christians who will welcome a viewing time which does not clash with normal services in the local churches, but surely the hundreds of thousands of Christians and well-wishers in our land have a claim to a better time than 2pm, when the potential audience are still involved with a meal which is, for many, the most family-centred meal of the week.

Yours sincerely,
ANN MARSH,
30 Plains Lane,
Hamstead, NW3.
August 22.

Youth training

From Mr K. N. Atkinson
Sir, In his letter in today's Times (August 23) the Director of Youth-aid expressed concern that the Youth Training Scheme may have some of

the shortcomings of the Youth Opportunities Programme, which is now ended.

The main difference is that for the first time young people can expect 12 months' high quality work-based training. Participating employers are required to provide a structured programme, including at least 13 weeks off the job. Criteria for the training programmes have been drawn up with the help of employers, trade unionists, educationists and voluntary organisations.

The work-experience element will be better planned than before. Far from increasing the risk of trainees not being offered jobs these factors are more likely to persuade employers to keep them on afterwards. But participation in the Youth Training Scheme cannot guarantee a job at the end: this is not its function.

Area manpower boards, who are involved in approving schemes, include representatives of the organisations named above. They have the enormous task of securing places for up to 460,000 trainees in this first year of the scheme - a programme which has not yet tried in any other country.

We hope that organizations like Youthaid with the interests of young people at heart will do all they can to secure the development of this new scheme on a sound basis.

Yours faithfully,
K. N. ATKINSON,
Director of Youth Training,
Manpower Services Commission,
Training Division,
Moortown, Leeds,
Sheffield,
August 25.

Compare the ornate magnificence of the railings of the Parc Monceau in Paris with the pathetic post and rail which currently encircles St James's Park or the tatty chicken-wire of Vincent Square, SW1. If France had not collapsed so suddenly in May, 1940, and had fought six years with the British, the railings of Paris might also have been transformed into Chars B or Morano-Sauzier fighters. But, if so, priority would surely have been given to their restoration once the war was over.

Why was this never done in London? Shornage of metal? Cost? Whatever the reason, is it too late to rectify the position now?

Yours faithfully,
D. H. COLVIN,
15 Westmoreland Terrace, SW1.
August 25.

Compare the ornate magnificence of the railings of the Parc Monceau in Paris with the pathetic post and rail which currently encircles St James's Park or the tatty chicken-wire of Vincent Square, SW1. If France had not collapsed so suddenly in May, 1940, and had fought six years with the British, the railings of Paris might also have been transformed into Chars B or Morano-Sauzier fighters. But, if so, priority would surely have been given to their restoration once the war was over.

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MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Shares continue to drift

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug 15. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

Investors decided to treat themselves to an extended Bank Holiday break yesterday as share prices continued to drift on lack of support at the start of the final leg of the long three-week account.

The latest industrial survey from the CBI made gloomy reading as it forecast a falling off in output next year.

Friday's US money supply figures did little to help sentiment. The M1 figures fell by \$200m - just slightly above the 5 per cent to 9 per cent target range set by the Federal Reserve Board.

The decline was less than expected, but the bond market appears to have lost some of its confidence. As a result, gilt fell by more than 50p in London as hopes of a cut in US interest rates took another knock.

Leading equities closed above their worst levels help by a firmer opening on Wall Street, but the FT Index failed to halt its recent slide, closing 5.8 down at 716.3 having been 6.6 lower at 5pm.

Only those blue chips boasting strong US institutional support resisted the trend, with ICI 16p higher at 550p after bullish noises in the overseas press. American investors now own more than 8 per cent of the company's shares.

Elsewhere, BTR fell 5p to 537p. Blue Circle Industries 7p to 428p, Bowater 4p to 112p, GKN 5p to 178p, Marks and Spencer 4p to 206p and Vickers 3p to 120p.

Tottenham Hotspur's televised home game with Nottingham Forest on October 1, may provide the backdrop for the first details of Spurs' decision to become Britain's first fully-quoted football club. Mr Paul Boffa a director of Spurs says: "We are aiming for around that date". The market is looking for forecast pretax profits of £1.5m and the bookmakers are offering odds of eight-to-one for Spurs to win the championship.

Morgan Guaranty has bought a number of American Depository Receipts and plans to start dealing tomorrow. Boots recently received the go-ahead from the Federal Drug Authority to market its anti-rheumatic drug, Ibupro-

fen, over-the-counter in the United States.

Elsewhere, BTR fell 5p to 537p. Blue Circle Industries 7p to 428p, Bowater 4p to 112p, GKN 5p to 178p, Marks and Spencer 4p to 206p and Vickers 3p to 120p.

The Irish oil boom appears to have run out of steam. Shares of Atlantic Resources tumbled 65p to 275p yesterday after Gulf Oil announced disappointing findings in its test report on the Celtic Sea.

Other casualties included Aran Energy down 10p at 410p and Eglinton Oil 35p to 165p. Less than a month ago shares of Atlantic Resources were at a peak of £1.5m as hopes of an oil boom swept Ireland.

Among the oil majors, BP slipped 2p in 436p still awaiting details of the government's planned sell-off. Shell was also a weak market, sliding 4p to 614p.

Among the insurance companies, Guardian Royal Ex-

change lost ground tumbling 10p to 516p ahead of figures today. The analysts appear undecided on the outcome, with estimates ranging from £47m to £58m against £55.7m last time.

Shares of Midland Bank go fully paid next week after its recent £155m rights issue. Wood Mackenzie the brokers are recommending both classes of shares as strong buys. The brokers say the dividend standing at 80p against a subscription price of 350p offer a cheap way into the ordinary, a present standing at 432p, and will provide a saving of about 10p after stamp and commission.

Whispers of bumper profits this year from Cornhill Dressers boosted the shares 17p to 250p. The group headed by Turkish entrepreneur Mr Asil Nadir is said to be on course for profits of more than £8m this year.

Mr Nadir's plans to merge all three of his publicly-quoted companies is still expected to be completed this year.

Hartson Nominees has bought 190,000 shares in Home Counties Newspapers, a subsidiary of County Newspapers and publisher of local newspapers in Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire. Hartson's stake amounts to 7.6 per cent of the equity.

Other big shareholders include County Bank with 12.53 per cent and Clydesdale Bank with 6.6 per cent. News of the purchase did little for the shares, which closed unchanged at 110p, 5p short of the year's high.

Simon Engineering has bought 2.5 million shares in Drake & Scull, the electrical, mechanical and general engineering, at an average price of 120p a share. This amounts to 13.8 per cent of the equity. Shares of Drake & Scull ended the day 2 1/2 higher at 119 1/2, while Simon closed unchanged at 398p, after 400p.

Ferguson Industrial Holdings has sold its entire stake in Finlay Packaging. Brokers W. Greenwell have placed 1.94 million share capital. Finlay closed just a whisker short of the year's higher at 37p.

RECENT ISSUES table with columns for Issue, Price, and other details.

BRITISH STOCKS table with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

SHORTS table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

MEDIOUM table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

LONGS table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

DOLLAR STOCKS table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERS table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL table with columns for Issue, Price, Change, Dividend, and Yield.

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BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S advertisement with logo and text.

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Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-537 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 718.3 down 5.9 FT 100 Shares 454.52 down 2.78 Bargains: 17,067 Datastream USM Leaders Index 100.53 up 0.05 New York Dow Jones Average 1196.65 up 2.54 Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,195.92 up 23.38 Hongkong Hang Seng Index 971.08 down 10.72 Amsterdam: 147.7 down 0.2 Sydney: AO Index 895.2 down 0.3 Frankfurt Commerzbank Index 914.30 down 1.60 Brussels: General Index 132.69 down 0.40 Paris: CAC Index 136.9 down 0.7 Zurich: SKA General Index 283.3 up 2.5

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.4990 down 25pts DM 2.2885 New York Latest Sterling \$1.4980 International ECUE0.566246

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rate 9% Finance houses base rate 10% Discount market loans week fixed 9 1/2-9 3/4 3 month interbank 9 1/4-9 1/2 Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 10 1/8-10 1/4 3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2 3 month Fr 15 1/4-15 US rates: Bank prime rate 11.00 Fed funds 9% Treasury long bond 10 1/4-10 1/2 ECED Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period July 6 to August 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$418.85 pm \$418.10 close \$417.50 New York (West): \$418.10 Kruggerand (per coin): \$430.50-432.00 (2287.50-288.50) Sovereigns (new): \$98.25-99 (265.25-66) Excludes VAT

TODAY

INTERIMS: Arbutnot Government Securities Trust, Babcock International, I. J. Dewhurst, Guardian Royal Exchange, William Jacks, Johnson Matthey (Quarterly), Nu-Switz Industries, Owners Abroad Group, Thomas Robinson, G. W. Sparrow & Sons. FINALS: Associated Dairies Group, East of Scotland, Onshore.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Cluff Oil, 58 St James's Street, SW1 (10.30); The Fleming Technology Investment Trust, P&O Building (2nd floor); Forshave Burnwood Brewery, The Brewery, Burnwood, Nr Warrington, Cheshire (11.00); Great Portland Estates, Brown's Hotel, Dover Street, W1 (3.00).

NOTEBOOK

Half time profits of £16.1 from the Ladbrokes Group, the betting shops to hotels company, disappointed the market which had hoped for better. Profits were up by 20 per cent on the previous period, and reflect higher occupancy in the hotels and stronger margins on the betting side. The interim dividend has been increased by 10 per cent to 4.07p. CRA, the Australian mining group which is 53 per cent owned by Rio Tinto-Zinc, made interim net profits of \$522m (£12m) against a loss of \$529.2 for the same period of last year. A dividend of 3 cents has been declared. Sales, which for the first time included Omnicore as a subsidiary, rose from \$590m to \$515.8m and earnings per share were 5.1 cents instead of a loss of 6.7 cents. The company says that demand and prices for most minerals were higher in the first half and that the trend is continuing. Most of the subsidiaries and associates increased their contributions.

Markets expect M1 to slip further from Fed's target range Dollar marches on as fears grow of US money supply bulge

The dollar surged ahead on currency markets yesterday as dealers indulged their obsession with United States money supply figures. Disappointment over the mere \$200m fall in M1 announced last Friday soon gave way to concern about the expected bulge in monetary growth in the weeks ahead, which it is believed, will push M1 further outside the Federal Reserve's target range. However, by late afternoon the dollar was running out of steam. Having touched DM2.6885 in London and begun to weaken in New York markets after the Fed injected reserves into the system with \$1.5bn of customer repurchases. Dealers interpreted the Fed action as a move to stabilize United States interest rates. Last week it drained reserves with reverse repurchases after the key Fed funds rate fell below 9 per cent.

But yesterday Fed funds had moved up from the 9 1/2 per cent of Monday to about 9 3/4 per cent which dealers believe is as high as the Fed would like. Starting was dragged up by the dollar yesterday rising nearly 2 1/2 pence to DM4.03 and 3 centimes to FF112.13. It came to \$1.499 - down 25 points - but its trade-weighted value rose 0.4 to 85.2. Although there is still reluctance to sell dollars, there are signs of growing disenchantment in the markets with the strength of the US currency. "There are many more people willing to sell the dollar, if they were convinced others would do the same," one dealer said yesterday. One argument frequently put forward suggesting that the dollar will begin to weaken is the burgeoning US trade deficit. On Monday the dollar suffered a temporary setback, while London

markets were closed for the Bank Holiday, after US trade figures were announced. But the reaction was short-lived and attention soon returned to money supply. Dealers believe that the Federal Reserve is pursuing a neutral policy towards monetary growth. However, there are worries that M1 figures due on Friday could show a rise in money supply of \$500m. The next large increase is expected the following week. In recent weeks M1 has come closer in line with the target range but figures over the next fortnight could push it well outside the range once again. There is concern in the markets that this would once again push up United States interest rates. Reacting to the overnight fall in United States bond prices, gilt-edged stocks closed yesterday with losses of up to 2 1/2% at the long end of the market.

Japan trade surplus at record \$3.7bn

Japan recorded its highest trade surplus on international trade in goods of \$3,760m last month, with exports nearly 5 per cent up on a year earlier, according to official government figures released yesterday. This is in sharp contrast to the \$6,360m US trade deficit for the same month announced on Monday. So far this year Japan has run a visible trade surplus of \$16,500m, putting the country on target for a record \$30,000m surplus this year. Japan's export success, notably in high technology such as video tape recorders and sensitive industrial sectors as motor vehicles, has prompted anxiety in Europe and America that Japan will corner the lion's share of the benefits from economic recovery, hitting output and jobs in their domestic economies. Japan has been a major beneficiary of the American economic revival, its exports boosted by the weakness of the yen against the sky-high dollar. Despite its low inflation rate and strong balance of payments position, the yen has been weakened by huge capital outflows to take advantage of higher interest rates in the United States. Pressures for protection against Japanese goods have been particularly strong in a post record trade deficit of up to \$70,000m this year.

Britain reschedules loans of £400m

Britain has had to reschedule more than £400m in official debts owed by countries which have got into economic difficulties, the Export Credits Guarantee Department will announce shortly. The rescheduling agreements have been negotiated in the last 11 years but five of them came in the ECGD's financial year ending in March. The publication of the figure for the first time, although small when set against the commercial debts rescheduled by banks, will underline the growing problems faced by all state-run export insurance agencies. The £400m relates to 16 agreements for longer repayment periods negotiated since 1972, some of which will already have been repaid. But the fact that five came into ECGD's last financial year, emphasizes the increase in cash-starved buyers of western goods. What is more, another six countries are known to be awaiting the start of various bilateral negotiations, having had their applications to reschedule agreed by the Paris Club. Poland, however, is not among them. If as now seems possible, the West recommences negotiations over Polish debt, that will only add to the burden of the ECGD and others. ECGD's exposure in Poland has shrunk from almost £1.1bn when Nato halted rescheduling talks in protest over martial law, to about £700m. This is by no means only accounted for by claims from British exporters. Large sums have been wiped from its books because projects to which it had committed insurance, have been cancelled. Short-term business has also stopped. The publication by the ECGD of names, and the sum it has rescheduled, is part of an effort to kill rumours that its activities have become a drain upon the taxpayer. It will reveal how it is helping for the red on its commercial account - but that it still has substantial reserves in its national interest.

Dow up 3 points in moderate trading

New York (AP - Dow Jones) - Stocks held out part of their early gains, yesterday. The Dow Jones Industrial average was up more than 3 points at the 11:57 level. It was up more than 3 in early trading. The transportation average showed a rise of about 5 1/2 points. Advancing issues were 7-105 or declines. Trading continued moderate although ahead of Monday's unusually slow pace. International Business Machines was 118 3/4, off 1 1/4; General Electric 49 3/8, up 1/2; General Motors 68 3/8, up 1/4. Halfbrutts was off 7 3/8, at 43 5/8; Times-Mirror up 1 1/4, at 77 1/2; Sunbeam Precision up 2 1/4, at 33; East Industries off 7 3/8, at 21 7/8; Southern Pacific up 1 1/4, at 39 3/4; Digital Equipment up 2 3/8 to 98 1/2.

Panel to study two more complaints about BPCC

Fresh complaints about the tactics used by British Printing & Communication Corporation in its takeover fight with John Waddington were lodged with the Takeover Panel yesterday. The Panel was given details of two more instances where callers allegedly claiming to represent BPCC telephoned Waddington shareholders saying that BPCC had a higher percentage of bid acceptances than was the true figure. This brings the total number of cases being investigated by the Panel to five. Mr John Hignett, director-general of the Panel, said that the Panel is still waiting for written evidence from the Waddington shareholders who claim to have been called by BPCC representatives in the last stages of the company's £18m takeover bid for Waddington.

Consumer nations' differences with Opec narrow New hopes for oil pricing accord

A summit of the world's oil producers and the oil consuming nations is being proposed to avoid a repeat of the confusion over prices which happened in the late 1970s. Proposals for talks between producers and consumers which could result in a long-term pricing policy were mooted in June when the four-man monitoring committee of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries met French cabinet ministers, met French cabinet ministers, met French cabinet ministers, met French cabinet ministers. The proposed establishment of such talks fits in with the long-term strategy proposed by Saudi Arabia's Zaki Yamani, the Opec Oil Minister, according to Petroleum Intelligence Weekly, the oil industry's influential newsletter. Opec has suggested talks with officials of the consuming nations, but the differences

KCA sale upsets meeting

Shareholders of KCA International, the oil exploration and services group, have expressed bitter disappointment over the price the company received from the management buy-out of its majority stake in the KCA Drilling subsidiary. At yesterday's extraordinary general meeting to pass the sale, resident shareholders were quick to remind directors that they had recommended the purchase of Drilling shares at 95p when a 25 per cent minority was ousted after two years ago. The parent company was now selling the remaining stock at 37p a share. Mr Paul Bristol, chairman and chief executive, spoke in favour of the deal, but, becoming angry, passed over board response to his merchant bankers and fellow directors. The shareholders wondered why, if Drilling had such a good future and was going to be supported by the Chemical Bank, KCA needed to sell it at such a price and why it could not solve the sale for later when perhaps it would be more profitable. Contradictory claims made recently by Chemical Bank, Mr Bristol said that the Drilling subsidiary had been draining the group of cash and had starved the other divisions of working capital. The Chemical Bank, whose idea it was to separate the two and which had produced Drilling's substantial financial support, claimed KCA International was draining off funds generated by profitable expansion. Mr Bristol claimed the time to do a deal was now and that anything could happen - "The drill rigs could get blown up" - to complicate it later. He also claimed that Drilling's cash needs were mainly responsible for group gearing rising to 130 per cent of shareholders' funds, which was "totally unacceptable", and that this deal reduced gearing to 10 per cent. Controversy then moved on to a £6.7m loan note being the balance owed to KCA International for the management buy-out after a £15m cash payment. Mr Bristol argued the note was worthwhile for two reasons. It generated 9 per cent interest per annum and could be converted into 18 million Drilling shares - 23 per cent of Drilling equity - at anytime over the next seven years. He also argued that if the Drilling share price hit 75p or more in the future why did they wait until then to sell it and get 75p for all 60 million shares. The resolution was passed with 1,500 voting in favour and more than 100 against.

Weir dividend is cut as rescue rules bite

Weir Group, the Glasgow engineering company, has been forced to cut its interim dividend by a half to 0.375p after pretax profits in the first six months of the year slipped by £1.4m to £2.2m. The 0.375p per share is the maximum the company can pay under articles of association imposed by the banks and shareholders involved in a £16m financial rescue two and a half years ago. The articles, which are designed to offer the maximum protection for those who provided money during the rescue state that any ordinary dividend must be at least twice covered by available earnings. Lord Weir, the group chairman, hinted that the company might have paid more but for the restriction. "The reduction purely reflects the requirement in our articles of association," he said. "What we might have paid but for this is a bit of an academic question. The constraint is there so we could not get consideration to a higher payment." The final dividend looks likely to suffer the same fate since in order to maintain the amount paid last year, the group must make pretax profits of at least £5.6m. The company said that results during the second half are expected to be generally similar to those of the first which would indicate a full year profit of over more than £4.4m against £7.6m last time. On the stock market, Weir's share price fell to a year's low of 27p, it later recovered to close 49p down on the day at 30p. The six-month profits were struck after taking account of the £1.2m cost of transferring pump manufacturer from Aldoa, in Scotland's Central region, and concentrating it at the Cathcart plant of Weir Pumps in Glasgow. The deal involved the loss of a further 430 jobs in the pumps division. Profits were also affected by the lower contribution of associates from £1.6m to £436,000. This was caused largely by Pump Services Centres, which has been badly affected by a lack of orders from the Middle East oil industry. It slipped into losses.

Sotheby's decision due soon

A government decision is expected within a fortnight on whether Mr Alfred Taubman, an American millionaire, may buy Sotheby's Park Bazaar, the world's largest auction house. Mr Taubman, who ranks among America's richest men, plans to pay £83m for the auctioneers. He has bought out his opposition, fellow American Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid, who opened the bidding for Sotheby's. Both takeovers are being investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. But the commission has concentrated on Mr Taubman since Messrs Swid and Cogan said they would sell their shares to Mr Taubman if he was allowed to buy Sotheby's. Sotheby's financial year ends today. At the half-way stage, reported in July, it had cut losses from £1.5m to £1.0m and was forecasting a £4m pretax profit for the whole year on a turnover unchanged at about £272m. That would include a £7m turnaround - the group lost £3m for the year to August 1982 - and analysts suggest the company is capable of £10m profits. Last night the shares eased 2p to 66 1/2p.



Lord Weir: dividend payments restricted

Sweden seeks record loan

Sweden is raising £250m through the largest sterling syndicated loan ever, the agent bank Samuel Montagu & Company said. The deal calls for a six-year, non-callable loan with options to extend it up to 12 years. At the end of three and six years, lenders have the option to extend the life of the loan to nine and 12 years, respectively. Lenders will receive a 0.12 per cent fee for the first extension and a 0.25 per cent fee for the second. For the first two years, the loan will be priced at 0.38 per cent over the London interbank offered rate for one, three or six-month sterling deposits at the borrowers' choice. The spread will rise to 0.50 per cent over Libor for the duration of the loan. Sweden will draw 50 per cent of the loan within 60 days of signing, set for mid-October. The remaining half will be a revolving credit for two years with an annual commitment fee of 0.25 per cent. Generali Oriental, the Hongkong registered company controlled by Sir James Goldsmith, has sold the retail division of its US offshoot, Diamond International. The buyer is a US holding company, Michigan General Corporation. It is paying \$120m dollars (£80m). Generali Oriental's shares were little changed at 505p on the news. Scotland's largest independent insurance brokers GT Senior have entered the Loddoo market by forming a new joint company, Senior Wright, with Lloyds brokers F E Wright UK, a wholly-owned Looor subsidiary. Elys (Wimbleton) the stores group, has pushed attributable profits up to £10.6m for the six-months ended July against £7.4m the year before. It will pay an unchanged 1p interim dividend on December 5. Singapore Airlines (SIA) has reported a 112.9 per cent increase in profit to Sing \$47.7m (£14.9m) from its airline operations in the year ended March 31, although group profit fell 16 per cent to Sing \$103m. Australia's 1983-84 wheat crop may be the second largest on record, according to estimates released by the government of agricultural economics forecasts a crop of 17.7 million metric tons, second only to the 18.1 million tons harvested in 1978-79.

City Editor's Comment Slippery slope to oil agreement

Stability in currency and commodity markets is something always agreed as a good idea. But it is much harder to get great nations to agree on the compromises of their self-interest necessary to secure practical deals. The results are there for all to see, not just on the foreign exchanges but also in the deceptively sharp rises in the dollar prices of most commodities this year. Individually, these are not enough to worry economic managers. Collectively, they threaten most economies of the world with an upsetting source of inflation. After all, weak commodity prices have helped cut inflation, as well as bankrupting developing countries over the past three years. Apart from the price of money, the price of oil is now the most important for the world economy. So there must be considerable interest if the French are taking serious steps to organize a meeting of oil producers and consumers to thrash out future prices. There are two main obstacles to any such agreement. First, they do not work. Second, the state of the market seems always to one side's advantage, making it unsympathetic to what it sees as the other side trying to protect itself from market forces. Yet there are now at least outside hopes for progress on an oil deal. Most commodity agreements fail because there is no effective export control agreement on the part of producers, because there is not enough money committed to stabilize market prices or because swing countries that are both producers and consumers or like the US have huge stockpiles, do not care to respond to market signals. For once the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is now showing itself capable of efficiently organizing export quotas, though it remains to be seen how long this will last. As for the swing countries, the position is more confused. Britain's energy department, when under Mr Nigel Lawson, the

present Chancellor, made a striking about-face at the last London conference of Opec, coming out in favour of stable markets rather than smashing the Opec cartel when it was groggy. The US, unfortunately, does not yet seem to have reached this new state of realism. And as the Administration has recently pulled out of two established, if unsuccessful, agreements on other commodities, there is now reason to look for enthusiasm from that source, however much the Germans, Japanese, the Saudis and now some more recalcitrant oil producers may want to deal. Henderson waits for OECD call

Henderson waits for OECD call

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, once known familiarly as the Treasury in exile, has a peculiar fondness for British economists, and one that does not seem to have been dampened one whit by the comparative failure of the British economy to perform. Within the next week or so the OECD is expected to announce the appointment of Professor David Henderson, who at present holds the chair of political economy, at University College, London, as the next head of its economic and statistics section, to succeed Mrs Sylvia Ostry who is returning to Canadian government service. Mrs Ostry is the only recent exception to a virtually unbroken line of British economists stretching back to the foundation of the OECD after the War, including three who subsequently went on to be chief economic advisers to the Treasury. But Professor Henderson - an economic "centrist" in the Keynesian-monetarist debate - is in a rather different mould to most of his predecessors. For one thing, his primary interests have been in micro rather than in macro economic problems. Could the OECD's traditional - and now highly politically sensitive - preoccupation with macro-economic policy be due for demotion?

Double up at Francis Parker

Francis Parker, the building materials group, more than doubled its pretax profits in the first half and expects to achieve a substantial increase for the year as a whole. The company cited the mild winter and the upturn in house building as the reason for the increase. It is looking at various opportunities to combine its expertise in the design and manufacture of building materials such as building blocks, with property development. Vaux buys four London pubs

Sunderland-based Vaux Breweries has paid £750,000 for four London pubs - its first in the capital. The four, including Holborn's Princess Louise, had gone into receivership. Vaux had to top rival bids from at least two other provincial brewers who were keen to develop London operations. The four pubs were part of a group, including three small breweries, which were at one time being groomed for a stock market share quote. Until now Vaux had just one London outlet - the London International Hotel which it acquired two years ago from grand Metropolitan.

Ivory & Sime PLC

Authorized Share Capital Issued and fully paid 200,000 17 1/4 per cent Participating Preference Shares of £1 each £200,000.00 27,000.00 in 27,000 Ordinary Shares of 0.1p each £ 24,454.30

Personal Assets Trust PLC

Authorized Share Capital Issued and fully paid 22,000,000 in 16,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 12.5p each £ 2,000,000.00 £ 1,866,415.25

Forecasts cut as Ladbroke weighs in light

Ladbroke Group
Half-year to 28.5.83
Pre-tax profit £16.1m (£13.4m)
Stated earnings 7.2p (7.4p)
Turnover £371.6m (£363.4m)
Net interim dividend 4.07p (3.7p)
Share price 214p, down 11p. Yield 5.8

Ladbroke is a favourite leisure stock, but after profits failed to reach the anticipated £18m forecasts for the year were downgraded to the £17m-£40m range.

Caution about the future was compounded by the unexpected doubling of the tax charge to £5.6m. It had been expected to continue at about 20 per cent.

On the retail betting side, operations benefited from finer margins which gave a boost to its profits contribution even though the business is not intrinsically a high margin one.

Margins have been firm by hard going on the racecourses which tends to help the favourites and to lead to higher rates of withdrawals by outsiders. Moreover, market share has been growing. Ladbroke claims more than 17 per cent of the British market through its 1,250 shops. It also has hopes of persuading more US states to legalize off-course betting.

Ladbroke is claiming higher tariffs and higher occupancy rates for its hotels. This suggests an encouraging trend towards heavier business use among the provincial hotels though actual

charges rather than published tariffs probably still show discounts.

London hotels have benefited from more foreign tourists and a weaker pound, factors which have helped both occupancy and tariffs.

Last year - the electrical retailers - has benefited greatly from Ladbroke's cash backing which has attracted back the big Japanese names which had previously abandoned the chain.

The property sector has seen a welcome improvement in the market climate, especially for the hard-hit British industrial property sector. In the US the Westchester developer's third building has gone under offer, which means the development's first phase is fully let.

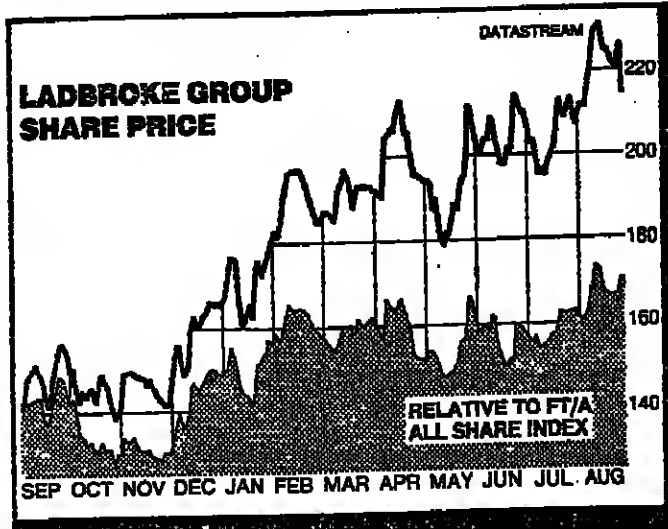
However, the acid test for Ladbroke's property business will come early next year when the trading is slow, and fixed-fee developments in London go on the market.

Ladbroke remains the strongest leisure group but there is a price for everything and with a prospective PE of about 12 for the full year it is beginning to look expensive.

Weir Group

Weir Group
Half-year to 1.7.83
Pre-tax profit £2.2m (£3.6m)
Stated earnings 0.5p (0.5p)
Turnover £60.8m (£57.4m)
Net interim dividend 0.375p (0.75p)
Share price 30p down 4p. Yield 6.3%

Weir Group was put on a sounder financial footing by the rescue two-and-a-half years ago,



but the 50 per cent cut in the interim dividend shows how long the shareholders will have to wait.

Under articles of association put into force when the £16m refinancing was arranged the group must earn at least twice as much as the cost of ordinary dividends. The preference dividends make the task that much harder.

The company will clearly have a monumental task to maintain the final dividend. Current trading is slow, and because losses at home cannot be set against overseas profits, the likely tax charge is 50 per cent.

At half-year, pretax profits were £1.4m lower at £2.2m. To come near maintaining last year's dividend under the twice-covered formula, the group must make pretax profits of £5.6m against

£7.6m last time. But Weir says gloomily that the second half is expected to be similar to the first.

The profit is mainly in the associated companies where Pump Services Centres has dipped into the red because of recession in the Middle East oil industry.

Weir Pumps is also making lower pretax profits because of the nationalization programme at Alcoa, Clackmannanshire, where 430 jobs are being lost. That cost the group £1.2m above the line this year.

CRA

CRA
Half-year to 30.6.83
Net Profit AS22m (AS29.2m loss)
Stated earnings 5.1 cents (6.7 cents)
Turnover AS1,530m (AS903m)
Net interim dividend 3 cents
Share price 348p, Yield Dividend payable 31.1.83

It is a sobering thought that CRA, in which Rio Tinto-Zinc has a 53 per cent stake is one of Australia's biggest companies but for years has made a pitiful return on assets.

The return to profits after a lean period will undoubtedly vindicate the faith shareholders and the market have shown in CRA, and will be equally welcome in St James's Square, but they do not change by one iota the underlying problem.

CRA is a kind of musclebound giant. It has huge assets, but has a hard job turning them into profits. To some extent, of course, this is not the company's fault. Mineral prices have played all mining groups, even though quickening of the American economy, to which Australian natural resource companies are finely tuned, has brought some relief. As luck would have it however, coal, iron ore and lead

are still resisting the upward trend in prices.

CRA has also had to grapple with high interest rates and a somewhat perverse currency policy. Some benefit has been derived from rates being lower than last year, although still fairly high in real terms, but the gain from the 10 per cent devaluation of the Australian dollar in March have largely been eroded by the subsequent renewed appreciation.

Against that, the weaker Papua/New Guinea kina inflated receipts from Bougainville.

But when all is said and done, a company like CRA has to live with such difficulties, and what really matters is the demand outlook.

In common with other mining companies, CRA is highly geared to changes in demand, particularly if they come with price movements. It is promising, therefore, that sales in this half were AS1,530m (€900m), compared with AS903m, or AS1,270m if Comalco is included as a subsidiary, which it now is, rather than an associate.

Ironically, Comalco was one of the handful of subsidiaries and associates - the others being Kembla Coal and Coler - which did not improve their results. So the final earnings per share figure would have been higher had it not been for the tax provision of AS113m being AS42.6m more than expected.

CRA should manage at least AS50m for the year, and could do much better. Yet that would be less than 1.5 per cent of sales. There is still a long way to go before the giant's muscles are well used.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in C's per tonne	
Colony, concn, type 1	100.00
Colony, concn, type 2	100.00
Colony, concn, type 3	100.00
Colony, concn, type 4	100.00
Colony, concn, type 5	100.00
Colony, concn, type 6	100.00
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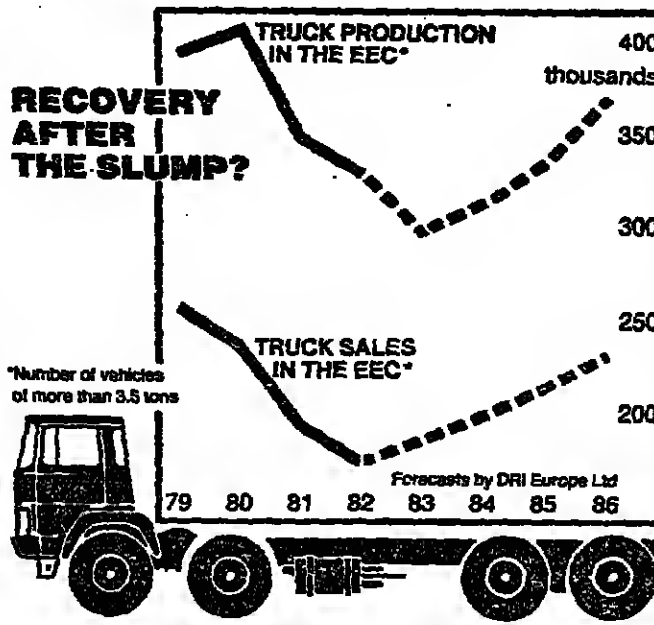
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Victims of the world recession - I: Andrew Cornelius examines the truck industry

Producers still search for turning point

Mr Les Wharton, the newly appointed managing director of Leyland Trucks, sent a shudder through Britain's troubled truck industry when he announced that the company "is literally fighting for survival".



World's top twenty commercial vehicle producers (1981)

Table listing the world's top twenty commercial vehicle producers in 1981, including Japan, USA, USSR, Canada, France, Brazil, West Germany, UK, Spain, Poland, India, South Korea, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Australia, Argentina, Yugoslavia, and Netherlands.

The strong pound, bolstered by North Sea oil revenues, put British exporters at a 30 per cent price disadvantage compared with their European rivals in the dismal sales years of 1980-82.

Demand created by the Iran/Iraq war also helped to swell sales at a time when other world markets were collapsing.

entered European and Third World markets. The worst year for UK truck companies was 1981, with production falling by 40 per cent to 230,000 vehicles.

Akzo NV Registered Office at Arnhem Report for the 1st half year 1983

Consolidated statement of income table for Akzo NV, comparing 2nd quarter and 1st half year 1983 and 1982. Includes sales, operating income, and net income figures.

Sales and income Sales for the 2nd quarter of 1983 were 5% higher than in the prior year so that the shortfall which developed in the 1st quarter was more than compensated.

Pharmaceuticals continued to develop favorably, with products making a significant contribution.

Operating income in the 2nd quarter was on a much improved level. At Hfl 336 million, operating income for the 1st half of 1983 was up 29% on last year.

Capital expenditures; financing Expenditures for property, plant and equipment in the 1st half of 1983 totalled Hfl 269 million (versus Hfl 340 million last year).

Sales and earnings of coatings in the 1st half of 1983 were well ahead of last year's figure, due in part to the contribution made by Wyandotte, the U.S. paints company acquired in 1983.

Operating income for the 1st half of 1983 is distinctly higher than last year. In the case of Akzo Zout Chemie there is some evidence of a recovery even if the present earnings level is still far from adequate.

Consolidated balance sheet (condensed) table showing assets and liabilities for Akzo NV as of June 30 and Dec 31, 1983 and 1982.

Table showing Akzo NV stockholders' equity and minority interest for 1983 and 1982.

Copies of this report may be obtained from the London Paying Agents: Barclays Bank Limited PLC, Securities Services Department, 54, Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH and Midland Bank PLC, International Division, Securities Services Department, 110-114, Cannon Street, London EC4M 6AA.

TABLE TENNIS

Prean bicycle glue makes Waldner's waltz come unstuck

Carl Prean, the schoolboy from the Isle of Wight, has done it again. His opening win yesterday in the World Cup, sponsored by Three Fives, in Bridgetown, Barbados, was the best of his career - 14-21, 29-27, 21-10 against Jan-Ove Waldner, of Sweden.

ROWING

Sad end to career of a great warrior

A swirling wind on the Duisburg Wedau course helped produce a course record but gave no luck to the five British men's heavyweight crews in yesterday's repêchages.

APPOINTMENTS

Cabinet Office policy chief rejoins Morgan Grenfell

Morgan Grenfell: Mr John Sparrow, who was director of the Central Policy Review Staff in the Cabinet Office, has rejoined the board of Morgan Grenfell & Co.

RUGBY UNION

Gateshead's new turn

Gateshead, more used to the world paying attention to its athletics heroes, will play host to New Zealand during their eight match tour of England and Scotland this coming season.

Sales and Marketing Appointments are featured every THURSDAY

for details please ring 01-278 9161/5

Property North of the Thames

September Specials! W.2 GRAVEN HILL GARDENS... KENWOOD 402 3141 - 23 Spring St. W.2

FIMCILEY RD 2 bed, 3rd floor flat in Tudor block... Tel: 04254 3459 Even/Weekends or 01 491 7126 office hrs

ISLINGTON HOLLOWAY ROAD, N1 Light and spacious 2 bed, C.H. flat, 93 sq. ft. £28,000 only Tel: 01-283 0141

BROOMHOUSE LANE, HURLINGHAM, SW6 A rare opportunity to purchase a house in an exclusive new development... Tel: 01-736 2383

ANLEY MELVILLE, 833 FULHAM ROAD, SW6. 01-736 2383

WEST KENSINGTON W14 Industrial 1 bedroom conversion... Tel: 01-385 4121 weekdays and evs.

SOUTH KENSINGTON hampton luxury flat, 1 bedroom, large lounge... Tel: 01-736 2383

VICTORIA, Luxury Studio Flat, 5th floor... Tel: 01-736 2383

EMPERORS GATE - First floor flat... Tel: 01-736 2383

CHISWICK MALE, riverside, W4, in lovely garden... Tel: 01-736 2383

NEW CANNEDISH STREET, W.3 Bright modern 2 bedroom flat... Tel: 01-736 2383

OLDE HAMILTON £179,000 F/H The Gravelton estate with every amenity... Tel: 01-736 2383

DULWICH WOODHALL DRIVE, SE21. Slender Family Home in this tree-lined location... Tel: 01-736 2383

WIMBLEDON 8 miles tube and Southern Region... Tel: 01-543 0355

WIMBLEDON PARK Unique bright and spacious flat... Tel: 01-543 0355

WIMBLEDON 2 bedroom, reception, kitchen... Tel: 01-223 9169

DULWICH VILLAGE (close) DULWICH renovated and modern... Tel: 01-299 1746 evs and weekends

WIMBLEDON 2 bedroom, reception, kitchen... Tel: 01-223 9169

ATOP RICHMOND HILL

Upper ground and ground level bedrooms... Tel: 01-359 1800

ISLINGTON N1 Victorian terrace, through lounge... Tel: 01-359 1800

W1 MAISONNETTE Compact maisonette close to Station... Tel: 01-254 8494

LOWNDEN SQUARE, SW1 Elegant and prestigious flat... Tel: 01-254 8494

BARNESBURY N1 Character 2 bedroom flat... Tel: 01-254 8494

HAINESWOOD, BEXINGTON ROAD, SW15... Tel: 01-254 8494

SWISS COTTAGE NW3, First floor... Tel: 01-254 8494

PITNEY, Luxury ground floor Tudor... Tel: 01-254 8494

SW17 - Ground floor flat with garden... Tel: 01-254 8494

BRISFORD ESTATE OFFICE has a selection of 1/2 to 3 bedroom flats... Tel: 01-254 8494

SMITH-WOOLLEY CHARTERED SURVEYORS... Tel: 01-422 6235

CORNWALL FOWEY ESTUARY 4 acres freehold... Tel: 01-422 6235

PROPERTIES SOUTH OF THE THAMES DULWICH VILLAGE (close) DULWICH renovated and modern... Tel: 01-299 1746 evs and weekends

WIMBLEDON 2 bedroom, reception, kitchen... Tel: 01-223 9169

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WIMBLEDON 2 bedroom, reception, kitchen... Tel: 01-223 9169

Residential property/Baron Phillips

A guide to the great tax getaway

Tax havens usually conjure up an image of Caribbean islands... Jersey is by far the most popular of the tax havens islands...



A reported £3m is being asked for Ile de Brecon in the Channel Islands through the London agents Humberts. Measuring three-quarters by one-third of a mile, this tax haven lies seven miles off Sark and has been described by the owners as priceless.

Hampton's local senior partner, Mr Paul Roberts, tells me that immigration to Jersey and where you live once you have been permitted to enter is strictly controlled... Mr Roberts says the cheapest

wealthy immigrant property starts at around £120,000 which should buy you a comfortable flat... Guernsey offers far greater freedom of entry. No wealth test applies and

the property market is an open one provided you purchase a home in a specific price bracket, usually over £200,000.

Mr Roberts told me that property prices on Guernsey are about 20 per cent higher than on Jersey... The Isle of Man, 70 miles off the Mersey coast, is completely different.

The most expensive home to have been sold on the island this year was a large country house with five cottages and 200 acres set in picturesque parkland... Unlike Jersey and Guernsey, prices tend to rise during the past year.

Most people who move to the Isle of Man do so in search of an equable retirement home... For those who simply want to escape to an island for peace and solitude, rather than for tax purposes, agents like Strutt & Parker, Knight Frank & Rutley and Savills are those to contact.

Guernsey offers far greater freedom of entry. No wealth test applies and

Country Properties

Humberts

Dorset/Wiltshire 50 acres Dorset/Wiltshire 2 miles, Tisbury 2 hours... 01-242 3121/0998 Tel: 27444

Wiltshire 2 1/2 acres An Elizabethan small stone house... 01-242 3121/0998 Tel: 27444

SUSSEX FREEHOLD 4 BEDROOM COUNTRY COTTAGE IN APPROX 1 ACRE... 01-242 3121/0998 Tel: 27444

MARTIN, HANTS PICTURED THATCHED 500 sq ft... 0425 4236

SUNNINGDALE, BERKS. In order to raise available Sunningdale golf course... 01-827 0100

KENT - MEREWORTH Tonbridge 5 miles, (Charing Cross 40 minutes)... 01-629 7282

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Kettering 7 miles (St. Pancras approx. 1 hour)... 01-535 7282

KENT - NR CANTERBURY Canterbury 3 miles, (Victoria 30 mins)... 01-535 7282

Nr. HALESWORTH In this country beautiful old cottage... 01-535 7282

GLoucester/BRISTOL BORDER BARROCK COUNTRY ESTATE 2 Hours London... 0215-374 evs.

AT WITTS END Please does anyone have an unoccupied house in the area... 01-731 4249

BRAMSHOTT, HANTS. Spacious 2 bed, mainstone, gas C.H., secondary glazing... 0428 724907

WEST WALES Cityfield Estate, Llanymorvan. A superior attractive period residence... 01-731 4249

AVON GREEN WILT. 1 mile Wotton Garden, 8 miles SE Alton... 01-731 4249

Property South of the Thames

OLDE HAMILTON £179,000 F/H The Gravelton estate with every amenity... Tel: 01-736 2383

DULWICH WOODHALL DRIVE, SE21. Slender Family Home in this tree-lined location... Tel: 01-736 2383

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WIMBLEDON 2 bedroom, reception, kitchen... Tel: 01-223 9169

SMITH-WOOLLEY CHARTERED SURVEYORS... Tel: 01-422 6235

COUNTRY LOVERS! Narrow-on-the-Hill... Tel: 01-422 6235

BRIGHTON In delightful square... Tel: 01-422 6235

HARLECH Coastal town... Tel: 01-422 6235

Broad Hinton, Wilts Modern detached house... Tel: 01-422 6235

SUFFOLK BY BURY ST EDMONDS... Tel: 01-422 6235

Knights Frank & Rutley HEREFORD/SALOP BORDER... Tel: 01-422 6235

SOUTH WALES... Tel: 01-422 6235

Minster, Kent... Tel: 01-422 6235

IRELAND, CAVAN... Tel: 01-422 6235

CHESHIRE Converted Chapel... Tel: 01-422 6235

WARWICK RD SW15... Tel: 01-422 6235

North Norfolk 18 miles Norwich, 3 miles North... Tel: 01-422 6235

PANORAMIC VIEWS... Tel: 01-422 6235

Cookham Dean... Tel: 01-422 6235

CHIDECK Dorset... Tel: 01-422 6235

SUFFOLK... Tel: 01-422 6235

BRISTOL, KINGSDOWN... Tel: 01-422 6235

STAINES/SLOUGH BORDER... Tel: 01-422 6235

BRISTOL, KINGSDOWN... Tel: 01-422 6235

YACHTSMAN'S FLAT... Tel: 01-422 6235

PERIOD COUNTRY COTTAGE... Tel: 01-422 6235

WARE G1068... Tel: 01-422 6235

VICTORIAN VICARAGE... Tel: 01-422 6235

STAINES/SLOUGH BORDER... Tel: 01-422 6235

BRISTOL, KINGSDOWN... Tel: 01-422 6235

YACHTSMAN'S FLAT... Tel: 01-422 6235

PERIOD COUNTRY COTTAGE... Tel: 01-422 6235

WARE G1068... Tel: 01-422 6235

VICTORIAN VICARAGE... Tel: 01-422 6235

Overseas Property

Near Cannes GRASSE Villa in established and private... Tel: 0628 27885

SWITZERLAND The Swiss chalet... Tel: 01-876 6655

SOTOGRADE, SPAIN 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom... Tel: 0628 27885

CALA D'OR, MAJORCA Distinctive villa in premier area... Tel: 01-657 3195

CAP D'AIX Near Monte Carlo... Tel: 043 52 3410

NEAR ROSE, beautiful beach town... Tel: 01-422 6235

CANARY ISLANDS, LANZAROTE... Tel: 01-422 6235

NEAR ROSE, beautiful beach town... Tel: 01-422 6235

CARDIGAN WALES... Tel: 01-422 6235

Broad Hinton, Wilts... Tel: 01-422 6235

SUFFOLK BY BURY ST EDMONDS... Tel: 01-422 6235

WARWICK RD SW15... Tel: 01-422 6235

POOLE - NEAR QUAY and shopping centre... Tel: 01-422 6235

CHESHIRE Converted Chapel... Tel: 01-422 6235

WARWICK RD SW15... Tel: 01-422 6235

WARWICK RD SW15... Tel: 01-422 6235

"Flintstock Grange"... Tel: 01-422 6235

VICTORIAN VICARAGE... Tel: 01-422 6235

WARWICK RD SW15... Tel: 01-422 6235

WARWICK RD SW15... Tel: 01-422 6235

WEST WALES Cityfield Estate, Llanymorvan... 01-731 4249

AVON GREEN WILT. 1 mile Wotton Garden... 01-731 4249

BRAMSHOTT, HANTS. Spacious 2 bed, mainstone... 0428 724907

AT WITTS END Please does anyone have an unoccupied house... 01-731 4249

also on page 20

Ruthless visionary who led his country into peace and war

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The decision of Menachem Begin to resign as Israel's sixth Prime Minister marks the end of an era in Israel, where he has remained one of the most formative figures since being elected to the first Knesset in 1949 as founder of the right-wing Herut (Freedom) Party.

A powerful and often vituperative orator (claimed by friends to be fluent in 10 languages), Mr Begin, the ruthless commander of the free state Jewish terror group known as the Irgun Zvai Leumi, has subsequently emerged into perhaps the most popular politician Israel has known. He has certainly always been one of the most controversial.

To meet in private, Mr Begin was always polite, courteous and a stickler for protocol. It was hard to reconcile his persona with the British warrant issued for him by the Palestine Police in 1946, which spoke of "a tall angular man with the thin lined face of a fanatic, jet black hair and myopic eyes behind thick lenses, he is the type of irresponsible, uncompromising rebel, thirsting for personal power".

West Bank is part of Israel's God-given territory.

Only a week after the 1977 election which brought Mr Begin's Government to power, Mr Begin outlined World philosophy: "I believe Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) are an integral part of our sovereignty", he said. "It is our land. It was occupied by Abdullah (the King of Jordan) against international law, against our inherent right. It was liberated during the Six Day War, when we used our rights of national self-defence... you annex foreign lands, you do not annex your own country".

Born in Brest Litovsk on August 16, 1913, Mr Begin became leader of the Betar youth movement, whose motto was "Ra'ach" ("Only Trust") and whose emblem was a rifle waved across both sides of the Jordan River. It was no coincidence that he and his wife were married in the Betar uniform, as their relationship was an intellectual as well as a physical match.

With the outbreak of hostilities in Europe, Menachem Begin soon became a Soviet prisoner in Siberia. He first came to Palestine as a private in the Polish Army and was reunited with his wife, who had already escaped there. He took command of the Irgun but insists that he never desired to be threatened to sue the Daily Telegraph for suggesting that he did, indicating the store he has always set by absolute loyalty.

During the turbulent free state period, the young Mr Begin rapidly displayed the qualities of leadership which have marked his period as prime minister until the recent sad decline, which many commentators link directly to the invasion of Lebanon - the failed grand design of former Defence Minister, Mr Ariel Sharon, which Mr Begin sanctioned on June 6, 1982.

During the violent campaign against the British and Arabs in the 1940s Mr Begin is believed never to have seen military action or to have fired a shot in anger, although he was responsible for planning violence on a wide scale and had a £10,000 price set on his head by the British.

The retiring prime minister, who presided over Israel's sixth and most divisive war, wrote in his autobiography that the life of ever man who fights for a just cause is a paradox. "He makes war to there should be peace. He sheds blood so there should be no more bloodshed," he explained then in language similar to that of his speeches justifying the Lebanon conflict. "That is the way of the world".

In the elections to the first Knesset, Herut won 14 seats, but it was destined to remain in opposition until 1977 - excluding the national unity period between 1967 and 1970 - leaving Mr Begin with a legacy of resentment.

In the last few months, especially after the most recent death of deputy prime minister, Simcha Erlich, his closest confidant, Mr Begin has cut a lonely, occasionally tragic figure.

It is sometimes hard to remember, listening to his most tub-thumping speeches about Israeli rights to the West Bank, that the man criticized internationally for expanding Jewish settlements is still revered by militant Jews for handing back the Sinai as the price for the Camp David treaty with Egypt, for which he won the Nobel Prize.



1942: Mr Begin wearing his British Army uniform, with his wife Aliza



Postwar: In the underground, with a £10,000 British price on his head, he is disguised as a rabbi



1948: Moving freely again, he kisses Irgun flag at a parade in Jerusalem



May, 1977: In from the wilderness. His election victory over the Labour Party becomes a family affair before he takes up the premiership



December, 1977: All smiles with President Sadat in Isma. Egypt, a summit precursor to the Camp David accords

Israel without a leader

Continued from page 1

quitting political life and that at a date yet unspecified he would be spelled out publicly his reasons for stepping down. Previously Mr Begin has explained that he would use his retirement to write books, principally his memoirs.

WORLD REACTION: Chancellor Kohl, of West Germany, has postponed his visit to Israel after being told yesterday by the Israeli ambassador that Mr Begin would resign (Michael Binyon writes). The decision spurs the Chancellor the embarrassment of arriving in Israel during a government crisis and having his symbolic visit overshadowed.

the trip, which Dr Kohl is anxious to undertake before his visit to three Arab countries in October.

Egypt would not expect a major change in Israel's policy when Mr Begin resigned, President Mubarak told journalists.

But he also voiced the hope that new Israeli policy should be in the right direction at least to reach a comprehensive settlement for the region. "We should not ignore that the Palestinian problem is still the main problem in the area". In Moscow Pravda said that even if Begin did step down, this would likely do nothing to change Israel's "aggressive expansionist" policy and Washington's support for it (AP reports).

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Organ recital by Andrew Cooper, Kyle Parish Church, Isle of Wight, 8.30.
Organ recital by Harold Stover, St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, 11.
Recital by Diana Palmer (piano), David Palmer (baritone) and John Gough (piano), St John's Church, Vicar's Lane, Chester, 11.
Recital by John Shirley-Quirk, with Sarah Watkins (oboe) and Martin Isepp (piano), Sutton Place

Heritage Trust, Sutton Place, nr Guildford, 7.30.
Walks Georgian Ayr and Tower of St John, meet Town Hall, Ayr, 2. Last chance to see The Human Form, Alick Knox and Catherine McWilliams, Peacock Gallery, Creighton, Northern Ireland; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, closed Sat and Sun (closed today).
Local Look countryside exhibition, Brook, Isle of Wight; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 6.30, Sun 2.30 to 6 (closed today).
Weaving chairs paintings by Jane Reeves, Banbury Museum, 8.

Horsefair, Banbury; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (closed today).
The Octagon Summer Show: a display of crafts in The Crafts Room, Octagon Gallery, 1, Lower Crescent, Bedford Square, Mon to Sat 10 to 1.30 and 2.15 to 5 (closed today).
Maio Street Bygones - an exhibition of an Ulster Street in 1900, the Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh, Northern Ireland; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 6.30, Sun 11.30 to 7 (closed today).
The West Kent Brass Rubbing Centre, Rochester Cathedral crypt, Rochester; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, (closed today).
Exhibition of unique aircraft, the Museum of Flight, East Fortune airfield, North Berwick, East Lothian; open daily 10 to 4 (closed today).
On Tropical Wings, The Museum and Art Gallery, The Green, Birmingham; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, (closed today).

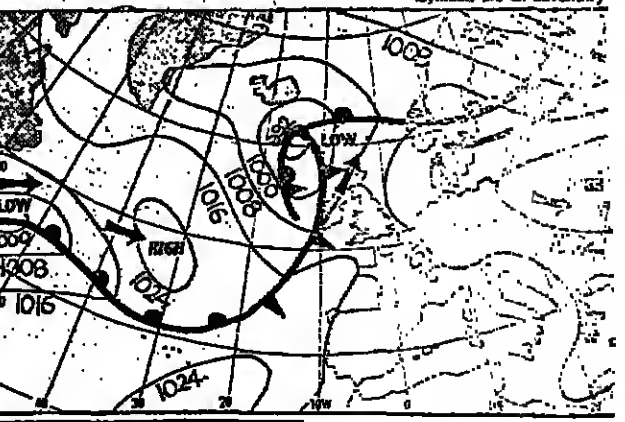
New book - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:
A Private View, by Irene Maier Selznick (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £9.95).
Brothers, by Bernice Rubens (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95).
Diversity and Depth in Fiction, David Crystal, ed. by Angus Wilson, ed. by Kerry McSwaney (Secker & Warburg, £15).
Donkey Work, by Edward Blishen (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95).
Light, by Eva Figue (Hamish Hamilton, £6.95, paperback, £3.50).

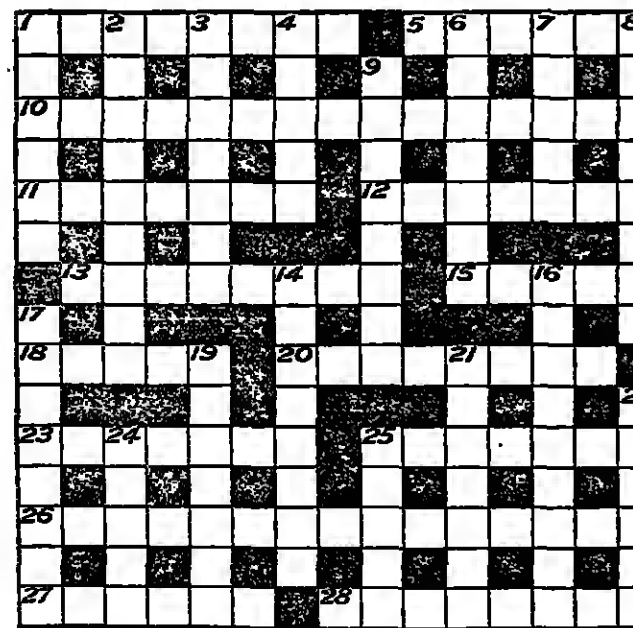
Weather forecast

A slack ridge of high pressure in S will give way as a trough of low pressure approaches W parts of Britain.
Sun to midnight
London, SE, E, NE, central N East Angles: Misty early sunny periods, dry, wind variable light; max temp 18 to 20C (64 to 68F).
Central S, NW England, W Highlands, Channel Islands, Lake District: Misty at first, sunny periods, becoming cloudy with perhaps rain later; winds variable light; max temp 16 to 20C (64 to 68F).
SE, England, Wales, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright periods after early mist, becoming cloudy with rain later; winds variable light; max temp 18 to 20C (64 to 68F).
Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands: Heavy rain, Northern Ireland: Rother cloudy, rain spreading from W; winds mainly SE moderate to fresh; max temp 16 to 18C (61 to 64F).
NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy with rain at times, clearer later; winds mainly SW moderate to fresh; max temp 14 to 16C (57 to 61F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Rain spreading to all parts, followed by bright intervals and showers. Becoming cooler.
Sea passenger: North Sea, English Channel (E, SE), Start of Dover: Wind variable light or moderate; sea slight S. George's Channel: Wind southerly light or moderate increasing fresh or strong; sea slight becoming moderate or rough.
Sea: Wind southerly moderate increasing fresh or strong perhaps locally gale in north; sea slight becoming moderate or rough.

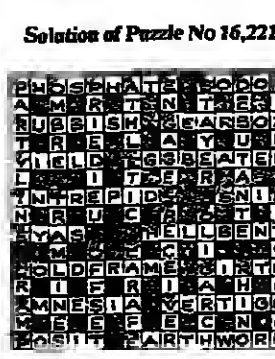
NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars (hPa) (Barometric scale)



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,222



- ACROSS
1 Cancel immediately, we hear (5, 3).
5 Gets worn in the first of several strikes (6).
10 Waits for production of this book (1,9,5).
11 Suez edible delight (7).
12 I am quietly learning to beg (7).
13 Giving speech, don't start being inaudible (8).
15 The long, not the Spanish, leather (5).
18 Island in which a river flowed (5).
20 Conquistador's not finished holding surgeon in warship (8).
23 Pools of it around in aircraft (7).
25 Promising youngster sated with Ruritanian (?)
26 Uninvited as car crashes in the vicinity of Victoria (9,6).
27 Did a dance having brought in the catch (6).
28 Bowler, for instance, had to agree to differ (8).
DOWN
1 Successfully breaking the low can result in it (6).
2 He succeeds in transmitting their gold (9).
3 Building uninsured if I cease to provide cover for it (7).
4 Sell for double (5).
6 Here's the main part of 22 (7).



The papers

The Daily Star says that when the left starts to talk about reasons to beware, Michael Mascher, the "Tony Benn-think alike" who is bidding for the Labour Deputy leadership, says that the party's nuclear policy must be one which commands the support of the majority of the people. "That sounds promising", the paper comments. "It is a fairly rare admission from some politicians that the people's views count at all." But it adds: "What a lot of pie in the sky. The electorate has already made up its mind on nuclear disarmament - and a whole lot of other policies foisted on Labour by the left wing. It rejected them - giving Labour its biggest drubbing in an election this century."
Nepzshabadsag, The Hungarian Communist daily has added its voice to the chorus from the Eastern bloc in praise of Mr Andropov's proposals to scrap part of his SS-20 medium-range nuclear missile force. It said the latest offer by the Soviet leader to destroy rather than redeploy the dismantled missiles was proof of Moscow's willingness to go to the furthest possible extreme in the interests of disarmament.

Roads

London and the South-east: A12: Major roadworks between Brentwood and Galloway Corner, Romford, Essex. A30: Reconstruction work at Staines by-pass, between Stanwell Moor Road and the Watlington roundabout. A225: All roadworks on a carriageway under A296 intersection on Dartford Tunnel Approach Road.
Midlands: A38: Two-way traffic on one carriageway and diversion at Clay Mills, Burton upon Trent by-pass, Staffordshire. A1: Lane closures between junctions 5 and 7 (Birmingham north-east to Birmingham central).
Wales and West: A38: Lane closures at Marsh Mills viaduct and Lee Mill, Plymouth. A670: Temporary traffic lights at Erwood, Powys. A38: Lane restrictions at Bridgewater Road, junction of Beidmaster Road, and Lewins Mead, Beidcol. Repairs.
North: M1: Contraflow and occasional limited access to motorway between junctions 30 and 31 near Sheffield. Derbyshire and South Yorkshire. M6: Lane closures until October between junctions 25 (A49 Wigton) and junction 27 (A520 Wigton) at Great Gable, West Yorkshire. M62: Resurfacing between junction 11 and 12 (Warrington east to M63).
Scotland: M9: Two-way traffic on one carriageway between junctions 5 and 7 (Falkirk to Kincardine Bridge). M74: South-bound carriageway closed between junctions 2 and 1 (Larkhall and the end of the motorway).

Lighting-up time

London 8.21 pm to 8.42 am
Bristol 8.20 pm to 8.42 am
Edinburgh 8.41 pm to 8.47 am
Manchester 8.20 pm to 8.47 am
Plymouth 8.40 pm to 8.50 am

Yesterday

Table with columns for location, temperature, sun, and other weather data for various UK cities.

High tides

Table listing high tide times for various UK locations including London, Liverpool, and Southampton.

Charity prize

Accountancy magazine, in association with the Voluntary Movement Group and the Charities Aid Foundation is offering an award of £1,000 for the best annual report and accounts published by a charity during the year to Sept 1st 1983. The closing date of entries is Sept 15. Forms and reports should be submitted to Miss Gillian Woolley, Baiden Barron Smith, 34 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HW.

Fire hazard

This glorious summer weather increases the risk of forest fires which, if not matching the scale and horror of the recent ones in Australia, at least need to be treated seriously. The Central Office of Information urges walkers not to use forests if they are at "a high fire danger level". They repeat the familiar warning not to light fires, not to throw away cigarettes.

Around Britain

Table showing sun, rain, and temperature data for various British cities.

Abroad

Table showing weather data for various international locations.

صحة من الأصل